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'Broader Use' of UN Observers, Forces Sought

LD0604103489 Moscow TASS in English 1004 GMT 6 Apr 89

[Text] New York April 6 TASS—Several members of the United Nations have urged to give a positive impulse to the work of the U.N. Special Committee on Peace-Keeping Operations with a view to boosting the peace-making potential of this most representative international body, raising its efficiency in settling crisis and conflict situations. Concrete proposals towards this end are contained in the report of Javier Perez de Cuellar, secretary general of the United Nations, published this Wednesday. It sums up the views of states on all aspects of the peace-keeping operations.

In the Soviet Union's opinion, the current situation warrants a broader use of U.N. military observers and armed forces. New spots have appeared on the map of conflict situations where the U.N. is exerting active peace-making efforts. They include Afghanistan, Iran and Iraq, and South-West Africa. The Soviet Union strives to consolidate and further develop the positive experience and the existing sufficiently flexible practice of carrying out such operations, to perfect the peace-making role of the United Nations. This calls for a joint search of new approaches, adequate ideas of how to expand the sphere of peace-keeping operations and back them up politically, legally and financially.

The Soviet Union believes it is expedient to give thought to proposals that a reserve of U.N. military observers and armed forces should be created, that a system to train personnel for U.N. forces should be drawn up on reciprocal lines, that an international centre should be set up or a programme drawn up for training personnel under U.N. aegis. If need be, and if the United Nations display interest in such a step, the Soviet Union would be prepared to consider the question of assigning a military contingent of its armed forces to take part in U.N. peace-keeping operations.

In the Soviet Union's opinion, dynamic development of international relations and growing interaction of Security Council members may put on the order of the day such actions as preventive operations to stem imminent conflicts, ensure the safety of shipping, preclude nuclear piracy, counter drug trafficking and stamp out international terrorism. Questions of the Security Council setting up U.N. observation posts in explosive areas of the world and of using satellites for long-distance surveying of hot spots could be brought up for consideration.

On behalf of the governments of northern Europe, which are taking an active part in U.N. peace-making efforts, Denmark urged the United Nations to display flexibility in the matter of further expanding the sphere of peace-keeping operations. It had in view possible operations on the sea, steps in arms control and in monitoring the observance of confidence-building measures, in rendering humanitarian and technological aid. The governments of Denmark, Norway, Sweden and Finland believe that operations to keep up and ensure peace should be closely interlinked. Control over this interconnection should be exercised by the Security Council in close cooperation with the U.N. secretary general.

The United States approached this question from quite different positions. It believes that since the peace-keeping methods, used by the United Nations, have proved their worth, the U.N. peace-keeping procedures required no changes. Proceeding from this, American diplomacy did not table any proposals to raise and strengthen the peace-making potential of the United Nations.

United States & Canada

U.S. Appoints Envoy to Afghan Opposition

LD0604090589 Moscow TASS in English 0857 GMT 6 Apr 89

[Text] Washington April 6 TASS—The U.S. Administration has appointed a special representative of the U.S. President in the rank of ambassador to the Afghan armed opposition, THE WASHINGTON POST reported on Thursday.

The newspaper wrote with reference to official spokesmen for the administration that U.S. Secretary of State James Baker had appointed to this post Peter Thomsen, a high-ranking diplomat who had worked at the U.S. Embassy in the People's Republic of China. It was pointed out that for the time being Thomsen would fulfill his duties staying in Washington, and not in the operation zone of the irreconcilable opposition.

This step taken by the Bush administration shows that the U.S. Administration is well on the way to recognizing the so-called opposition "government" created in Pakistan. THE NEW YORK TIMES reported recently that after closing several weeks before the U.S. Embassy in Kabul, the Washington administration was now considering the breaking of diplomatic relations with the Republic of Afghanistan.

Southeast Asia & Pacific

SRV Announces September Withdrawal From Cambodia

LD0604090189 Moscow TASS in English 0800 GMT 6 Apr 89

[Text] Hanoi April 6 TASS—A decision to completely withdraw Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea before the end of next September has been taken, Nguyen Co Thach, Vietnam's foreign minister, said at a news conference held here.

The decision was taken bearing in mind the results of the second informal Jakarta meeting on Kampuchea, and also China's promise to stop military aid to the Khmer opposition after the pullout of Vietnamese troops, the minister said.

The news conference was held following a joint statement of the governments of Kampuchea, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, and Laos on complete withdrawal of Vietnamese volunteer troops from the People's Republic of Kampuchea, which has been circulated on Wednesday.

Touching upon the situation in Kampuchea after the complete troop withdrawal, the minister stressed that there could be two possible developments. If all parties concerned strictly comply with the accords, this will promote an early settlement of the problem. Otherwise, Pol-Pot men may again seize control. The countries which do not honour their obligations will be responsible for that, the minister emphasised.

Vietnamese troops would only re-enter Kampuchea if there was a real threat of genocide and Kampuchea used its legitimate right to approach other states for aid, Nguyen Co Thach said.

Vietnam, as any other state, has the right to respond. Vietnam will give aid if no other side assists the Kampuchean people. All the countries which demand the complete withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea should guarantee that the Pol Pot regime will not be restored.

When asked about Vietnam's attitude to the normalisation of Soviet-Chinese relations, Nguyen Co Thach stressed that Vietnam welcomed Mikhail Gorbachev's forthcoming visit to the People's Republic of China and believed that the visit would improve relations between the two countries. Normalisation of relations between the Soviet Union and China is helping improve the situation in Southeast Asia, the Asia-Pacific region and the world as a whole, he said.

Touching upon the Vietnamese-Chinese relations, the minister said that Vietnam had proposed to the Chinese side a second round of negotiations between the two sides at the level of deputy foreign ministers, to be held in April this year. But there has so far been no response to the proposal.

USSR-PRC Summit May Help Cambodia Problem

BK0404035989 Moscow in Cambodian to Cambodia 1230 GMT 3 Apr 89

[Station observer Oleg Alekseyev commentary]

[Text] The coming Soviet-Chinese summit might be a significant contribution to the search for a political solution to the Cambodian problem. This was stated by Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas in a recent press conference in Jakarta. Our observer, Oleg Alekseyev, writes: Mr Ali Alatas' assessment of a certain role to be played by the Soviet-Chinese summit is not exaggerated. Frankly speaking, among the states outside the region, the Soviet Union and China have paid particular attention to quickly seeking a solution to the Cambodian problem. Judging from their weight and influence in the region, the Soviet Union and China are very capable of doing this.

On its part, the Soviet Union is ready to contribute all efforts for restoring peace in Indochina. This was reiterated a few days ago by Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Comrade Igor Rogachev in his Bangkok statement. He stressed that the Soviet Union has been helping all sides directly involved in the conflict to seek a way to reach a mutual understanding, but we are not a direct actor in the conflict.

This principled statement is certainly very significant. The Soviet Union, through the use of its prestige and its friendly relations with Phnom Penh and Hanoi, might stimulate the process toward normalizing the situation in Cambodia. As a matter of fact, China can do likewise. However, due to some circumstances, many matters depend on China. Even so, one should not forget that the Cambodian solution is primarily the internal affair of the Cambodian people. Only the Cambodian people have the right to decide the future of their country and solve their own internal problems. This matter should also be mentioned in connection with all the hopes placed on the coming Soviet-Chinese summit.

What can the Soviet Union and China do? The answer is that they can stimulate the efforts to create outside conditions favorable for expanding the Jakarta process, that is, the political dialogue between Phnom Penh and the warring Cambodian groups that began in July 1988.

On this point, the most important thing is that at their two previous meetings, the Soviet and Chinese foreign ministers agreed on a number of principled aspects of the Cambodian problem. Both Moscow and Beijing oppose a solution through military means.

The Soviet people are glad to learn that the political dialogue among the Cambodian parties will continue. We have learned about the statement made a few days ago in Beijing by Samdech Sihanouk in which he said he agreed with PRK Council of Ministers Chairman Comrade Hun Sen's proposal for another meeting to be held. On his part, the samdech proposed that this new meeting be held in Jakarta 2-3 May.

Philippine Energy Problems Viewed, Help Offered

HK0404034189 Moscow in Tagalog to the Philippines 1300 GMT 3 Apr 89

[Commentary by Anatoliy Aleksandrov]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] The main reason for the serious shortage of electricity in the Philippines can be traced directly to the misplaced expenditure for the Bataan nuclear power plant. The cost for constructing the plant came to more than $2 billion. Today the country has had to abandon plans to use this facility. The American company Westinghouse has been allowed to violate various basic technological regulations. Even during the construction of the plant, some accidents occurred. The worse violation has been confirmed as the breaking of radiation security rules set by the international agency controlling nuclear power. Such actions by Westinghouse were exposed by Filipino newspapers, which reported on the large bribes involved in these transactions during the Marcos administration. The $2 billion, viewed against the Philippine foreign debt amounting to $29 billion, is staggering. The Philippine Government is now studying ways and means of retrieving this sum from the American companies concerned. Whatever the results of this, a shortage of electricity remains. One main concern of the Philippine national corporation is the excessive consumption of the United States' military bases at Clark Field and Subic Bay. Today's desperate power shortage is hindering production of export items whose profits are badly needed by the country. Many companies have had to put up their own power generators.

Today the Philippine Government is experiencing difficulty finding new energy sources. In this connection, the proposal made by the Soviet Union to set up a coal-fired thermal electric plant in the northern part of the Philippines is being considered. The Soviet plan, in one way, could help solve the serious electricity shortage in the country.

Thailand To Promote Economic Ties With Burma

BK0404123189 Moscow in Burmese to Burma 1030 GMT 4 Apr 89

[Station observer commentary]

[Text] The Japanese news agency KYODO reported that Thai Deputy Foreign Minister Praphat Limpaphan, accompanied by a large contingent of journalists and representatives from six Thai ministries, will visit Burma in April. In this connection, a Moscow Radio observer filed the following:

When news of the Thai delegation's planned visit became public, foreign observers pointed to the fact that with the exception of the visit to Burma by the Thai military delegation headed by General Chawalit Yongchaiyut at the end of last year, Thailand has been avoiding the dispatch of high-ranking government delegations to Burma—until now. Observers said this was because of the political instability in Burma. Moreover, Thai mass organizations that doubted that the General Saw Maung government would keep its promises had also pressured the Thai Government on this question. However, as preparations for multiparty elections are gradually taking shape in Burma, the Thai Government appears to have decided to take another step toward improving relations with the Rangoon government.

The Japanese news agency said the visit by Praphat Limpaphan is to lay the groundwork for the development of economic cooperation between Burma and Thailand. Thailand was one of the first nations to express willingness to set up trade and economic links with the Gen Saw Maung government.

Some foreign publications criticized the Thai Government for being too hasty in wanting to exploit the Burmese situation and the natural resources of Burma. However, I do not think that all Thai decisions concerning Burma were made out of economic considerations alone. A statement by Thai Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan in a recent interview proves this point. He said that after taking into account the present level of economic development in Thailand, establishing mutually beneficial relations with all of Thailand's neighboring countries—including Burma—would contribute to peace, security, and development in Southeast Asia. Thailand, he said, has been practicing its foreign policy with these objectives in mind. The Thai prime minister said that since Burma is a good neighbor to Thailand, normal relations between our two countries are completely natural.

Latest developments show that with the improvement of political stability in Burma, the Gen Saw Maung government will be able to remove the obstacles to normal ties with other governments, particularly the ones in Asia. Also, economic cooperation with foreign countries will contribute to normalization of the economic situation or to the installation of democracy in Burma.

USSR Gives Award to Laos' Phoumi Vongvichit

LD0504140489 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 5 Apr 89

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has awarded the Order of the October Revolution to Comrade Phoumi Vongvichit, member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee Political Bureau, acting president, deputy chairman of the Lao Council of Ministers, and chairman of the Front for National Construction Central Committee. This is to mark his active participation in the revolutionary movement and his great personal contribution to strengthening comprehensive cooperation and friendship between the Soviet Union and the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

Near East & South Asia

Shevardnadze Criticizes Pakistan's Afghan Role

Says Accords 'Flagrantly' Violated

BK0504080789 Hong Kong AFP in English 0644 GMT 5 Apr 89

[Text] New Delhi, April 5 (AFP)—Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze has accused Pakistan of openly and flagrantly violating the U.N.-mediated accords which paved the way to a Soviet troop withdrawal from war-torn Afghanistan.

In remarks published here Wednesday by India's pro-Moscow daily PATRIOT, Mr. Shevardnadze noted that Pakistan had committed itself to non-interference in Afghan affairs under the agreements reached in Geneva last year.

The accords, signed by Kabul and Islamabad and guaranteed by Washington and Moscow, bound Pakistan not to supply arms to mujahidin groups fighting to topple the Kabul government, not to allow the transit of arms through its territory and not to provide a base for the rebels.

"This obligation is openly and flagrantly violated," Mr. Shevardnadze said in written replies to questions put by the newspaper.

"In fact Islamabad has embarked on a road of actual refusal from observing the obligations under the accords, sanctified by the name and authority of the United Nations," he was quoted as saying.

The Soviet and Kabul governments have accused Pakistan of planning, equipping and arranging a mujahidin offensive on the strategic eastern Afghan city of Jalalabad which began 18 days after the last Soviet troops left Afghanistan on February 15.

They have charged that Pakistani militia are fighting alongside the mujahidin in the Jalalabad battle, said to be the bloodiest of the 10-year-old Afghan war.

"Any government should think twice before challenging the international community in such a way and before resorting to such a gross violation of the international law," Mr. Shevardnadze said.

"Pakistan, on its part, should have thought about the consequences of its actions thrice because it puts at stake too much—the reputation of the country on whose word one could rely as well as the future of its relations with the countries of the region," he said.

The Soviet foreign minister said Pakistan's Afghan policy was a matter of serious concern to the international community since it was a blow to "the growing tendency towards political settlement of regional conflict situations."

"Pakistan has quite a few big and complicated problems," Mr. Shevardnadze said without identifying them. "By its defiant policies towards Afghanistan, it will aggravate these problems and will put itself in an even more difficult position."

Mr. Shevardnadze's comments on Pakistan formed part of a long reply to a question about what he felt were the two most important successes and two most important failures of international diplomacy.

He listed the signing of the superpower Treaty on Elimination of Intermediate-Range and Short-Range Missiles and the Helsinki Final Act, adopted at the all-European Conference on Security and Cooperation in Vienna last January, as the successes.

"Unfortunately failures are impermissibly numerous," Mr. Shevardnadze said. "Every flare-up of an armed conflict is a failure of diplomacy."

"I would put the frustration of the process of relaxation of tensions in the 70's in the first place (among failures). The inability of diplomacy to prevent the emergence of an acute crisis in relations between the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China may be considered a major failure."

He said these two failures had exerted prolonged influence on the global situation and prevented an early end to the cold war.

The Soviet foreign minister said there was "a long way to go" before the concept of rival military blocs disappeared.

But "I have no doubt that the...day will come when the blocs will wither away as political and military anachronisms," he added.

Says India 'Reliable Partner'

LD0504154489 Moscow TASS in English 1528 GMT 5 Apr 89

[Text] New Delhi April 5 TASS—The problem at the focus of world politics is how to avoid a nuclear catastrophe, how to stop the nuclear arms race and how to strengthen international security, according to Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze.

Speaking in an interview with the newspaper PATRIOT, which was published today, he answered a question about the most significant trends in international politics in recent years by mentioning the anti-nuclear tendency, the internationalisation of the problem of development in its political, economic, ecological and social aspects, and the turn towards political settlement of regional conflicts through collective efforts, which has resulted in the emergence of a much-promising series of positive changes in Afghanistan, southern Africa, Central America, Kampuchea, in the Korean peninsula, south Sahara, the Middle East and Cyprus.

He also pointed out the establishment of the universal character of interpretations and practices in the sphere of human rights and the recognition by states of the supremacy of law as a world-wide humanistic and democratic tendency in international relations.

Shevardnadze described the Soviet-U.S. INF Treaty and the final document of the Vienna follow-up meeting of the Helsinki conference as the two major achievements of international diplomacy.

Speaking of major failures in this field, he noted "the frustration of the process of relaxation of tensions in the 1970s" and "the inability of diplomacy to prevent the emergence of an acute crisis in the relations between the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China."

The Soviet foreign minister said that Pakistan, as a party to the Geneva agreements on Afghanistan, has undertaken not to interfere in Afghan affairs in any way, not to supply arms to opposition groups, not to allow the transit of weapons through its territory, not to provide its territory as a base for opposition forces, and not to allow them to operate out of Pakistan.

"Any government should think twice before challenging the international community in such a way and before resorting to such a gross violation of the international law.

"Pakistan, on its part, should have thought about the consequences of its actions thrice, because it puts at stake too much—the reputation of the country, on whose word one could rely, as well as the future of its relations with the countries of the region," Shevardnadze said.

Speaking of the role of the Nonaligned Movement, the Soviet foreign minister declared: "We support the aspiration of the Nonaligned Movement, under the new circumstances, not only to preserve but to enhance its role in the world arena as an independent political force."

Asked about the role of military blocks in the present world, he said that the "concept of blocks" is increasingly in conflict with the growing tendencies of both world and regional development.

"I have no doubt that the day will come when the blocks will wither away as political and military anachronisms," he stressed.

Speaking of Soviet-Indian relations, Shevardnadze said: "In the Soviet Union, India is regarded as a reliable partner in solving the major task facing mankind today—to promote peace, security, development of the present and future generations of people."

UN Posts on Afghan-Pakistan Border Sought

LD0504220589 Moscow World Service in English 2100 GMT 5 Apr 89

[Text] The Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze has pointed to the need for an inquiry into the implementation of the Geneva accords and into violations of that agreement by Pakistan. In an interview for the Soviet news agency TASS, circulated at the United Nations, the Soviet foreign minister said that permanent United Nations posts should be planted on the Afghan-Pakistani border to establish effective control.

'Rebel' Offensive on Jalalabad Reported

'Repelled' 4 Apr

LD0504150189 Moscow TASS in English 1435 GMT 5 Apr 89

[Text] Moscow April 5 TASS—Afghan Government troops repelled on April 4 another major rebel offensive on Jalalabad, Yuriy Gremitskykh, first deputy head of the Information Directorate of the USSR Foreign Ministry, told a news briefing on Wednesday [5 April].

The rebels have been losing recently up to 1,000 men a day. From March 6, the day when Afghan rebels and Pakistani malishis launched an all-out attack on Jalalabad, they have lost more than 8,000 men, of whom 6,000 men were killed. Nevertheless the Pakistanis and rebel leaders plan to throw thousands of new lives into the "Jalalabad slaughter-house".

Overall, there are 30,000 rebels and malishis in Nangarhar Province. They are being armed with advanced means of waging war, as SCR rocket launchers, Milan antitank guided missiles, U.S. and Japanese means of communication and surface-to-air missiles. This testifies to the growing intentions of the organizers of the Jalalabad offensive, the Soviet spokesman said.

It was reported that foreigners fighting alongside the rebels prevent the evacuation of wounded from the battlefield. Today, for example, one of the opposition groups lost nine rebels killed and seven wounded in a bombing raid. Arab advisors prevented their evacuation for treatment and killed them themselves. Demonstrations were reportedly held in Peshawar to protest against the involvement of Afghan refugees in hostilities near Jalalabad. Pakistani authorities prohibited to inform refugees about the losses to prevent any further mass protests.

In another development, testifying to the split in the camp of the enemies of the Republic of Afghanistan, some rebel ringleaders blamed Pakistani military units, which have little knowledge of the tactics of conducting combat operations, for the losses at Jalalabad.

On April 4 the Afghan armed opposition committed another bloody crime in Kabul, Yuriy Gremistkykh said. Several districts of the capital came under intensive shelling which killed eight and wounded 20 people. There were three women and a child among those killed. Ten women and two children were wounded.

The Soviet spokesman said that a trial was expected to start in Kabul today of two Pakistani nationals charged with espionage and armed actions against the Republic of Afghanistan. The trial is open. Foreign correspondents and diplomats received an opportunity to be present at the trial.

Rebels Taking 'Great Losses'

LD0504122589 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0830 GMT 5 Apr 89

[Text] The combined forces of the Afghan opposition and the Pakistani militia are continuing their efforts to capture Jalalabad, the administrative center of Nangarhar Province. Our correspondent in Afghanistan, Aleksandr Shkirando, reports.

[Begin Shkirando recording] In the period since 6 March, the extremists, supported by the 11th and 18th Infantry Divisions of the Pakistani Army, have undertaken several mass offensives. However, they have still been unable to take the initiative in this important strategic region. As I was informed today by the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Afghanistan, the attackers have suffered great losses from the air and rocket artillery strikes of the Afghan Army. Nonetheless, in spite of all these losses, which account for hundreds killed and wounded every (?week), the rebels continue, or to put it more precisely, they are forced to continue their combat operations by strong pressure from the Pakistani military.

To all appearances, the Pakistani military is already becoming irritated by the sluggishness of the Afghan extremists, who yesterday made a firm promise to capture Jalalabad by the 7th of April, in other words by the beginning of the Muslim festival of Ramadan. As I was told during a conversation with a representative of the minister of defense of Afghanistan, a 25,000-strong enemy grouping, including about 6,000 Pakistani militiamen and 165 servicemen of the Pakistani Armed Forces, have been deployed in the area of combat operations to this end. Let me note that military advisers from a number of Arab countries also continue to operate in opposition units. According to a Kabul radio report, the bodies of another six Arab advisers have been found on the battlefield in recent days.

The situation around Jalalabad continues to be very tense, but recent successful operations by the Armed Forces of Afghanistan provide grounds for supposing that they will be able to defend this city, which is a sort of symbol for all Afghans. [end recording]

Yazov Returns Home From Syria Visit 30 Mar

PM0604094989 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 31 Mar 89 Second Edition p 1

[TASS report under the general heading: "Visit Over"]

[Text] Army General D.T. Yazov returned to Moscow [from Syria] 30 March.

He was met at the airport by N.V. Talyzin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; Army General M.A. Moiseyev, chief of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff and USSR first deputy defense minister; Army General P.G. Lushev and Army General K.A. Kochetov, USSR first deputy defense ministers; Army General A.D. Lizichev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate; and other officials.

The welcome party included 'I. al-Na'ib, ambassador of the Syrian Arab Republic to the USSR.

Bessmertnykh Receives Lebanese Ambassador

LD0504194489 Moscow TASS in English 1931 GMT 5 Apr 89

[Text] Moscow April 5 TASS—Aleksandr Bessmertnykh, Soviet first deputy foreign minister, met Mahmud Hammud, Lebanese ambassador to the Soviet Union, on the latter's request on Wednesday.

The two discussed ways to end the bloodshed in Lebanon and start a peaceful dialogue between the warring factions to achieve national accord in the country.

The sides also discussed ways of preserving unity, territorial integrity and sovereignty of Lebanon.

Aleksandr Bessmertnykh also discussed the situation in and around Lebanon and the prospects of peaceful settlement in the country with the French Ambassador Yves Pagniez, whom he met on the ambassador's request the same day.

East Europe

Ashes of Katyn Soldiers Transferred to Poland

LD0504165989 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1628 GMT 5 Apr 89

[Text] Smolensk, 5 Apr (TASS)—In connection with an appeal by the Polish side, a solemn funeral ceremony was held today to hand over the symbolic ashes from the burial place of the Polish officers in Katyn for transfer to Warsaw. Taking part in the ceremony were representatives of the party and local soviet organizations of Smolensk Oblast; a Polish delegation headed by Division General [title as received] Roman Paszkowski, chairman of the Council for the Protection of Monuments of Struggle and Martyrdom; and Wlodzimierz Natorf, Polish ambassador to the USSR.

Polish Party Plenum Examines 'Radical' Reforms

PM0404152389 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 Apr 89 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Polish United Workers Party Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] Warsaw, 1 Apr—The key tasks of the Polish United Workers Party [PZPR] in implementing radical political and state reforms in Poland and a number of internal party questions were examined at a PZPR Central Committee plenum held here.

Addressing it, W. Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and chairman of the Polish Council of State, pointed out that the platform of the current dialogue, which has been elaborated by the Central Committee and approved by the coalition forces, must be a political directive for the final "roundtable" talks and accords. We expect them to be crowned by the achievement of an agreement on questions of greatest importance to the people's well-being, the strength of the people's state, and the process of reforms under conditions of socialist parliamentary democracy. It is also necessary to view from this viewpoint the tasks of preparing for the All-Polish Conference of PZPR Delegates, which will be held during the difficult Sejm and Senate election campaign. It must not be just a report on the fulfillment of the 10th PZPR Congress decisions, but above all, a review and demonstration of the militancy and cohesion of party ranks.

In the adopted resolution the plenum approved the PZPR Central Committee Politburo's activity aimed at implementing radical transformations in the country and the accords already reached at the "roundtable" on the main questions of accelerating and deepening political, social, and economic reforms.

The plenum resolved to convene the All-Polish Conference of PZPR Delegates 4-5 May this year.

Outcome of Poland's 'Roundtable' Talks Detailed

Rakowski Cited

PM0404094989 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 Apr 89 Morning Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Speech by M. Rakowski"]

[Text] Warsaw, 2 Apr—The continuing "roundtable" talks with the participation of representatives of the government coalition, trade unions, and constructive opposition are an event of great importance for Poland's present and future, M. Rakowski, member of the Polish United Workers Party [PZPR] Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers, said on Polish television.

The "roundtable," he noted, makes it possible to create a political situation and conditions under which all Poles adhering to different views will find their place in new political structures. The process of reforming the existing system has been continuing in Poland for many years now, M. Rakowski continued. But it is the "roundtable" and the attempt to reach agreement between different political forces and different orientations which can create a qualitatively new situation in Poland if it is a case of the values which must be not only preserved but also developed in the socialist system.

During discussions in the "roundtable" working groups, the most diverse proposals are being put forward concerning not only political structures but also all sectors of the national economy—industry, mining, trade, and health. When the "roundtable" ends, all demands, proposals, and comments which have been put forward will be analyzed carefully by the government which, on the basis of economic calculations, will determine what can be implemented and what is merely good intentions. This is because in all these questions we must consider reality or else nothing will be successfully achieved in

Poland. This should commit the government coalition and the opposition, in short all those who are truly interested in improving the socioeconomic situation in the country.

Touching on the strikes continuing in the country, the majority of whose participants are seeking an increase in wages, M. Rakowski noted that a kind of vicious circle arises here. Pressure to increase wages causes an increase in prices, and this entails new demands. Satisfying the demands of the strikers depends on the directors of enterprises and the presence of funds for the purpose, otherwise enterprises will find themselves on the verge of bankruptcy, which is already happening.

Communique Adopted

LD0604073189 Moscow TASS in English 0709 GMT 6 Apr 89

[Text] Warsaw April 6 TASS—By TASS correspondent Valentin Volkov:

A final plenary meeting of roundtable talks ended here late on Wednesday night. The talks were attended by representatives of the government coalition, trade unions and the constructive opposition.

For two months roundtable working groups and subgroups have discussed problems of vital importance for Poland's future which are connected, in the first place, with the implementation of political, social and economic reforms and the achievement of national accord by all the influential political forces of the country.

The plenary meeting ended with the adoption of a communique in which its participants approved agreements reached by the working groups and sub-groups and expressed their desire to jointly work to put them into practice.

The final meeting was addressed by Czeslaw Kiszczak, minister of internal affairs, Solidarity leader Lech Walesa, Alfred Miodowicz, chairman of the All-Polish Central Council of Trade Unions, and other participants in the talks.

Hungary's Grosz Visits Transcarpathian Hungarians

LD0504140689 Moscow International Service in Hungarian 1900 GMT 4 Apr 89

[Text] [Presenter] As our dear listeners already know, Hungarian Socialist Workers Party [MSZMP] General Secretary Karoly Grosz paid a brief visit yesterday to the Transcarpathian region. Today, in the framework of our feature "The Editor at the Microphone," our editor (Sergey Felikin) outlines his thoughts connected with this:

[(Felikin)] Good evening, dear listeners, let me first of all greet you on the occasion of the liberation festival! It is (?characteristic) that on the threshold of the festival Karoly Grosz visited that region of the Soviet Union where nearly 170,000 Soviet citizens of Hungarian nationality live. In recent times a whole series of (?measures) have been introduced on the basis of which the national minorities can develop their national culture and traditions, and can (?use) their mother tongues. I myself was in Hungary recently and I became convinced of the huge interest in the fate of their compatriots living beyond the borders, (?even) in the lives of Hungarians living in the Soviet Union. For this very reason, after the working visit held in recent days, [23-24 March] at his press conference held in Moscow, I asked Comrade Grosz this question: What is the opinion of the MSZMP general secretary about Soviet policy relating to the Hungarian national minority? Comrade Grosz stated the following:

[Begin Grosz recording] Hungarian public opinion welcomes, with good heart and understanding, the initiatives which promote the development of the national culture of the Hungarians living in the Soviet Union. The activity of the cultural association or the birth of the Hungaryology Center, as well as the exchange of textbooks, to which you alluded, are all contributions to safeguarding and developing national cultural values. I would like this practice everywhere to expand and be enriched. The Hungarian party several times formulated its stance—that it is interested in the Hungarians living beyond the country's borders being [word indistinct] of the changes, developments taking place in the mother nation, in the processing and development of its culture's past values and present creations, present achievements. [end recording]

[(Felikin)] (?I would like to conclude my editorial comments) by saying that for the Hungarians living on the Soviet Union's territory, further possibilities are opening up, and this too is a manifestation of the traditional friendship of our peoples. This is indeed so. But I would like to draw attention to the fact that the concrete steps mentioned by Comrade Grosz have become possible [word indistinct] amid the conditions of restructuring, when we cast aside former dogmas. The rights and possibilities of peoples living beyond the borders of their own nations depend on the policy pursued (?in the given country), and as a direct consequence of that, this policy (?can provide possibilities) in interstate relations, or it (?can be a factor) encouraging the wider and deeper cooperation of the [word indistinct] countries. Today we strive to utilize every possibility so that the Magyars in Soviet Transcarpathia feel themselves to be citizens of the Soviet Union with full rights, but at the same time they should not feel that they are cut off from Hungary.

This thought was also stressed by Comrade Grosz in his speech at Uzhgorod yesterday. I have no doubt that the new nationality policy will promote and will make more effective the interstate policies and will contribute to creating full confidence between the Soviet and Hungarian peoples.

Czechoslovak Plenum Debates Economic Reform

PM0404093789 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
3 Apr 89 Second Edition p 6

[Own correspondent S. Vtorushin dispatch: "Questions and Answers. What Was Discussed at the CPCZ Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] Prague—A Czechoslovak Communist Party [CPCZ] Central Committee plenum that examined two questions has ended in the Czechoslovak capital. M. Jakes, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, delivered a report on the first of these questions entitled "On the CPCZ' Activity Since the Central Committee December (1988) Plenum and Its Future Tasks." In particular, he said that this year is extremely important for the party and all society. Intensive preparations have begun for the 18th CPCZ Congress. A great deal of theoretical, political, and organizational work is to be done there. The time that has elapsed since the last plenum has shown the unprecedentedly rapid rates at which domestic and international political processes are accelerating. Life is raising more and more new questions and problems to which correct answers and solutions must be found.

The plenum defined the implementation of economic reform as one of the most important current tasks. This process is not proceeding with ease. Not only because economic organizations are having to work under conditions in which the new economic mechanism is still not operating at full power but the effect of the old mechanism has not been eliminated. Inertia of thinking and people's penchant for accustomed forms of economic activity are all too great. As a result contradictions between the 5-year plan targets defined by central organs and the plans of economic organizations continue to deepen within the economy. In a number of cases the interests of enterprises are at variance with society's needs. For instance, the consolidated plan of enterprises envisages a 1.6-percent increase in national income this year whereas, according to the 5-year plan target, it should total 2.2 percent. Unfinished construction work is increasing. All this indicates that the economy's transition from extensive to intensive paths of development is proceeding too slowly.

Touching on questions of reorganizing the central organs and their mutual relations with state enterprises and discussing the tasks of changing their work style and methods, the plenum indicated the need to effect structural changes within the economy more rapidly. In view of the need to speed up economic intensification it was decided to prepare and hold this June a plenum devoted to questions of scientific and technical progress and the development of the machine-building complex.

The plenum also talked about restructuring in the sociopolitical sphere. In particular, about work on a new CSSR constitution. This January a session of a commission of the CPCZ Central Committee and the National Front was devoted to this question and discussed the principles behind the country's fundamental law. The Federal Assembly Presidium adopted a decision to provide the public with more extensive information on the activity of the country's supreme legislative organ. Work to implement measures designed to improve the activity of national committees and step up their rights and responsibility for their territories' comprehensive development continued.

The CPCZ Central Committee general secretary noted in his report that questions of improving the party's work and increasing its combat capability are constantly at the center of attention for the Central Committee. The CPCZ program and the new party statutes that are to be adopted at the 18th congress are designed to aid this.

The second question discussed by the plenum was the improvement of public education. J. Fojtik, member of the Presidium and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, noted in his report that many problems have accumulated in this sphere.

The plenum's discussion of these problems was pointed. The participants in this discussion pointed out that school should play an important role in the restructuring of society. The educational process should ultimately be geared toward speeding up scientific and technical progress. A lag in education and instruction signifies a lag in social development. The entire public education system is now geared to educating mediocre pupils. It should educate the individual and create conditions for the development of every child's individual aptitudes and talents.

The plenum did not propose educational reform. It adopted political decisions designed to improve the existing system and eliminate the shortcomings noted in the course of the debate.

West Europe

Gorbachev Begins Visit to United Kingdom

Arrives, Welcomed by Thatcher

LD0504222789 Moscow TASS in English 2220 GMT
5 Apr 89

[Text] London April 6 TASS—Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev arrived on an official visit here from Havana at 2300 local time Wednesday.

Gorbachev and his wife Raisa were greeted on the tarmac by a special representative of the queen, the lord chamberlain, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and her husband Dennis.

Although the protocol did not call for any official statements to be made at so late an hour, numerous Londoners and a large corps of reporters from various countries had gathered for the welcoming ceremony.

A Royal Air Force guard of honour greeted Gorbachev at Heathrow Airport, and the national anthem of the Soviet Union was played in his honour.

Arrival Ceremony Reported

LD0604094489 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0230 GMT 6 Apr 89

[From the "120 Minutes" program presented by V. Molchanov and L. Verbitskaya, with video report from London by special correspondent V. Shishkovskiy]

[Text] [Begin Shishkovskiy video report] London's Heathrow airport—Late yesterday evening, the aircraft on which Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev arrived, following the completion of his official friendly visit to Cuba, landed here. The British capital gave a ceremonial welcome to the lofty Soviet visitor. The state flag of the USSR was raised on the airport's flagstaff. An honor guard from the Royal Air Force was drawn up on the airfield. At the aircraft steps, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev was welcomed by the queen's special representative, Lord-in-Waiting Strathclyde. The Soviet leader was met by Margaret Thatcher, prime minister of Great Britain, her husband Dennis, Foreign Secretary Geoffrey Howe, and other officials. [video shows Aeroflot jet landing at night, Soviet flag flying, Thatcher heading welcoming party crossing tarmac, and guard of honor; Gorbachev and wife shown descending steps, shaking hands with officials, then standing for Soviet anthem]

Despite the late hour, quite a few residents of the British capital and, of course, numerous journalists, gathered at the airport. The Soviet state anthem was played. Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev and those accompanying him left the airport for London. [final video shots from airport show Gorbachev in conversation with Thatcher as they cross the tarmac]

The residence of the lofty Soviet guest. Here Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev had his first, brief conversation with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. [video shows large room with ornate furniture; Gorbachev, Thatcher, spouses, and translators shown entering; Gorbachev, Thatcher and Raisa then shown seated on chaise longue talking] [end video report]

[Molchanov] That was a report by special Soviet Television correspondents on the arrival in London of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev. To continue, I would like to draw your attention to the comment by TASS special correspondents, which we also received from London, and in particular to the assessment TASS gives to the visit by Margaret Thatcher to Moscow in 1987. I would even like to quote it in full: It is probably in Moscow that the thaw in the British leader's feelings toward the changes in the USSR began. Political reckoning already weighed considerably less than the desire to leave behind forever the stereotypes of the past, and to understand more deeply the essence of the renovation taking place in the USSR. If the sum of all these shifts is multiplied by the sincerity, charm, and consummate tact with which Thatcher shared her views not only on the modern world but also her concern about it on television in Moscow, then one can understand why Thatcher's Moscow days added thousands of Soviet people to the numbers of her admirers around the world.

Well, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's visit to Great Britain is just beginning, but even on the eve of the visit the press and the world's news agencies have been noting the unprecedented pace at which the political dialogue between the USSR and Great Britain has been gathering of late. So we will await more news from London.

Gorbachevs, Thatchers Meet

LD0504235189 Moscow TASS in English 2334 GMT 5 Apr 89

[Text] London April 6 TASS—By TASS special correspondent: After the welcoming ceremony at London's Heathrow Airport, Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and his wife Raisa left for their residence in the Soviet Embassy.

At midnight GMT Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and her husband parted with the Gorbachevs, wishing them good night. The official talks will begin Thursday morning at the prime minister's Downing Street residence and will end on the same day with the signing of Soviet-British documents.

This visit inspires hopes for more positive changes in the process of reducing military confrontation in Europe and in the climate of international relations.

The general tone of television commentaries and newspaper headlines shows that not only the rapprochement between the two great powers but also personal contacts between the Soviet and British leaders, one of the important causes of this process, are greeted.

Regarding foreign policy priorities of Moscow and London, commentators single out their European orientation. It is in Europe that big potentialities for political, economic, military, cultural and humanitarian interaction have taken shape and are already beginning to be translated into life.

Issues discussed by the two countries include the idea of a common European home as a political and legal structure guaranteeing a stable and predictable development for Europe.

The sides arrived at the idea of integrity and interconnection of European processes, prompted by reasons of their own. But the important factor is that the sides have a common goal, and new political thinking and the sides' conscious wish to renounce stereotypes of the past are the best means to achieve this goal.

The British press on the whole notes the dynamism in the development of bilateral relations in science, culture, arts, tourism, and environmental protection.

It also notes some progress, although constrained, in commercial and economic relations. There are reasons to hope that bilateral trade will reach the planned target of two and a half billion roubles by next year.

The two sides are setting up joint ventures, including in such promising areas as petrochemistry, the manufacture of household appliances, means of automation, electronics, and the food industry.

A British trade month, to be held in April in Moscow, will be of much importance in this respect. Hundreds of British businessmen have applied for participation in it.

One should also mention preparations, now under way, for a Soviet-British space flight on a Soviet orbiting station, a Soviet tour by the British national youth theatre forthcoming in April and a visit to the Soviet Union by Prince Edward in this connection, and a week of Britain scheduled for next year in Kiev.

These and other events confirm Mrs. Thatcher's statement made two years ago in Moscow that the cold war is over and that the two countries are entering a new stage in their relations.

Gorbachev-Thatcher Talks Begin 6 Apr

LD0604093989 Moscow TASS in English 0930 GMT 6 Apr 89

[Text] London April 6 TASS—By TASS special correspondents:

Mikhail Gorbachev opened the first working day of his visit to Britain by going into a private meeting with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher in her residence at Downing Street, 10.

In the common opinion of reporters covering the visit, the meeting will deal with such pressing problems as disarmament, regional conflicts, humanitarian issues, the building of a common European home, and bilateral economic cooperation and trade.

Gorbachev arrived in London from Havana at 2300 local time on Wednesday. Despite the late hour, a large corps of correspondents from different countries attended the welcome ceremony at Heathrow Airport.

Several hours before Gorbachev's arrival, Soviet Television in Moscow aired an interview with Thatcher, in which she said, among other things, that changes underway in the USSR have been instrumental in bringing about "great improvement" in Anglo-Soviet relations.

Gorbachev-Thatcher Meeting Ends

LD0604143589 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1420 GMT 6 Apr 89

[Text] London, 6 Apr (TASS)—Special TASS correspondents report:

The almost 3-hour conversation between Mikhail Gorbachev and British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher at her 10 Downing Street residence has ended.

Following the conversation the Soviet leader told waiting journalists outside the residence that they discussed problems of disarmament and security, regional conflicts, the prospects for development of bilateral Soviet-British relations, and many other issues.

The talks will be continued, Mikhail Gorbachev noted, expressing the opinion that the sphere of cooperation is expanding. He called this dialogue realistic and welcomed such a development of Soviet-British relations.

Gorbachev's UK Agenda Previewed

LD0504233989 Moscow TASS in English 2325 GMT 5 Apr 89

[Text] London April 6 TASS—After the welcoming ceremony at London's Heathrow Airport, Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and his wife left for their residence.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and her husband, who accompanied them, wished Mikhail and Raisa Gorbachev good night and parted until next morning.

The working programme of the first day of the visit begins at 1300 Moscow time [0900 GMT] on April 6 at the prime minister's Downing Street residence. After the official talks, Soviet-British documents will be signed.

Gorbachev is also to have a meeting with British businessmen, which is expected with much interest here.

On the second day of his visit the Soviet leader will give a speech at Guildhall, seat of city government, to prominent British statesmen, scientists and cultural personalities.

On the same day, the Soviet visitor will be received in audience by Queen Elizabeth II at Windsor Castle.

UK Reportage on Gorbachev Visit

For UK reportage on the visit to the United Kingdom by General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev, including talks between Gorbachev and Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and between Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe and Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, see the United Kingdom section of the 6 April West Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Thatcher Interviewed on UK-USSR Relations

LD0504213889 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 5 Apr 89

[Interview with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher by unidentified correspondent; date, place of interview not given—recorded, in English with superimposed Russian translation]

[Text] [Correspondent] Mrs Thatcher, in a few days you will be meeting Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev for the fourth time. What are your feelings on the eve of this significant event?

[Thatcher] I am awaiting it with impatience and remember that during my first meeting with Mr Gorbachev at Chequers, the British prime minister's country residence, good mutual understanding was established between us right from the start. We discussed world problems in a frank, committed, and amicable manner. During that very constructive meeting I obtained the deep conviction that we had made a start on qualitatively new relations between our countries. It happens quite often that much in the world changes under the influence of leading politicians from this or that country. Fortunately, I feel that the complete mutual understanding which arose at that time between Mr Gorbachev, President Reagan, and me was able to put events on a new and more promising track; and this happened during that very first meeting. As you know, I also met Mr Gorbachev in Moscow, and I will never forget my visit to Moscow. I will always remember the warm reception given me by the Soviet people. I also remember well the television interview, a lively and dynamic one, when three correspondents—do you recall it—asked me questions, and told me the following day that a Moscow taxi driver had said to one of his passengers that if they have started showing programs like the interview with Mrs. Thatcher, then the time of glasnost has really set in here. That's good, I said, isn't it?

[Correspondent] How do you see the present and future of British-Soviet relations?

[Thatcher] They are growing closer and closer, thanks to the fact that Mr Gorbachev has, it seems to me, significantly renewed Soviet policy. He has drawn wise conclusions from the fact that the old policy led neither to the prosperity of the Soviet people nor to the freedom of choice they ought to have. Indeed, prosperity is impossible without a greater degree of economic and political freedom, and awareness of this idea also demonstrates Mr Gorbachev's wisdom. The adoption of the appropriate decision demanded extraordinary courage, and I understand why he made that decision. He probably glanced at the country's past and the significance of the Leninist idea. I feel he realized that developments would have proceeded along a different road if Lenin had lived longer, and I think he said: Look, what we have is not as good as I, Gorbachev, would like for the people of the Soviet Union. Changes are, in general, a difficult thing; but the hardest thing of all is to change people's attitudes. Many would like everything to remain as it is, and a material breakthrough to real change can quite often be preceded by a period of uncertainty.

Nonetheless, Mr Gorbachev saw the great goal ahead. It is as if he focused a powerful searchlight on the possible future; and when I read his speeches and listened to his plans, I grew convinced that they have much in common with our own efforts over many years to create the system that has brought us prosperity and freedom, for which we have struggled and which we will always defend. I believe that it is precisely these changes that have helped us achieve a significant improvement in our relations and make them closer and warmer. The changes have also helped the Soviet Union attain new heights in international affairs. We understand that joint work with the renewed Soviet Union, and not aloofness toward each other, can promote the resolution of some of those global problems that remain unsolved to this day, and help bring the peoples of the world together.

[Correspondent] In which areas, in your opinion, could a further development of Soviet-British relations take place?

[Thatcher] Soviet-British relations are developing very successfully. It is possible to come closer together in the area of trade, above all. This is a very good way of developing good-neighborliness at the level of everyday life. We have already organized a fairly large number of joint enterprises—18 or 19, I think—and we are discussing the possibilities for setting up another 13 or 14. We will be able in this way to demonstrate in practice how we do things, and you will possibly consider it necessary to copy something from it for yourselves. As a consequence, we will start buying some of your goods. A British-Soviet trade week is due to be held here soon, along with a British week in Kiev. All this will promote the exchange of experience between our countries in the area of efficient economic management and freedom of choice, and also the exchange of ways of filling the shops with goods from which the buyer can choose according to his taste. After all, if buyers do not like goods, they remain on the shelves; producers learn the necessary lessons from this and revise their selection. Thus, trade is of great importance.

One more important area is the development of cultural ties. Your people are coming here, and we like this very much, while our theatrical groups, dancers, and musicians are going to your country and also meeting with a warm reception there. I like very much the practice of exchanges of groups of schoolchildren, which is developing spontaneously—when schoolchildren from your country come to one of our schools, for example, to have a look at how their British contemporaries live. Perhaps the most important thing—because the most important thing is people's reactions—was the response of British people to the news of the dreadful earthquake in Armenia.

I first heard of the earthquake in the evening, before going to bed. At 0600 I was by my radio. The scale of the destruction was not yet known in the evening. That was reported in the morning news, after which the radio commentators started discussing what the prime minister's reaction would be. I simply picked up the telephone receiver and asked to be put through to the BBC. "Put me through to the commentators from the morning program," I said, "because they want to know what I think about this matter. I want to set out my point of view." They asked me, "Will Mr Gorbachev, who stated the day before that it was necessary for him to return home, come to Britain?" I said, "Of course, I understand his intention very well. When such a dreadful tragedy has occurred in the country, Mr Gorbachev must be with his people, and he must indeed go home, although we regret that our meeting has not taken place. We, for our part, will do everything possible to provide help."

Telephone calls with offers of help started coming in that same day. Callers asked for permission to set up special teams of doctors with experience in treating people crushed by wreckage, and surgeons and experienced firemen offered their services. People asked whether there was a need for earthmovers and many other things—foodstuffs, blankets, tents, etc. It was a spontaneous public movement, which had to be organized. I think we did a lot to bring together those who wanted to help, and also allocated large resources for these purposes. When it emerged later that we had not managed to use up the whole sum, we did not start switching the remaining funds to other programs. The minister of education, who was present at the visit of Mr Gorbachev and his wife to Brize Norton and showed Mrs Gorbachev one of our schools, came to me and sugested, "What about building a new a school for Armenian children?" We decided to do that. As far as this sort of spontaneous reaction is concerned, it could hardly have occurred a few years ago. However, it demonstrated in practice that when people in one country come to grief, all political barriers collapse, and the provision of aid to those people becomes the only goal.

[Correspondent] In this connection, I would like to ask which global problems can, in your view, be solved by the East and the West uniting their efforts?

[Thatcher] Certainly, some political problems of a global scale can be solved through cooperation. For example, the Soviet Union and Great Britain, as two of the five permanent member countries of the UN Security Council, made their contribution to the general efforts to stop the war between Iran and Iraq. In my opinion, it is necessary for all five to continue their cooperation in the business of solving the problems of the Near East and the Arab-Israeli conflict, for that work requires an international framework. People are urging that the time has come to start negotiations. The Angolan question was also resolved by joint efforts—the efforts of the Soviet Union and the United States in that case. As you know, the Cuban troops who were in Angola have left the country, and Namibia will be granted independence. It would not have been possible to solve that problem without joint efforts. A very serious problem also exists in another part of Africa: Mozambique. And as far as we know, Mister Gorbachev and some of your academics have let it be known that they would like to see a solution to the South African problems not through force, but by means of negotiations. These are all examples of how global issues in various regions of the world can be solved through cooperation.

There is also something that has an influence on all of us: namely, the environment, that atmosphere around the Earth, which supports life. We know that up there processes are going on that are a consequence of the colossal increase in the planet's population and the colossal growth of industry, which pollutes the atmosphere. We know that, sooner or later, all this will have an effect on all of us, and that we must take steps to prevent that. We cannot say that, since our activity has reached levels unprecedented in the history of the world, we can allow ourselves to destroy the systems that support our life, the Earth's atmosphere, the seas, and major river systems. Therefore, we must cooperate. The point is that pollution spreads from country to country. The Chernobyl accident convinced us of how far it can go. All this forces us to realize that we are all inhabitants of one planet, and science will help us accept this challenge if we follow its advice. Some of today's problems are the consequence of the successful development of science itself, but science can also help solve them.

That is why we need scientific cooperation and to seek out scientifically based solutions which it will be essential to implement. Cooperation among two or three countries will not lead to anything. What is needed is for all countries to unite their efforts. That is a stimulus for work and for the creation of opportunities to implement it. And I think real opportunities do exist.

There is a third aspect of the problem. We all need to be concerned for our own security and defense capability, and we are now. Our country has always believed in defense, but we do not attack others. Our military alliance has defensive aims. And the USSR has also reviewed its previous views in favor of the principle of defensive sufficiency. The world is unpredictable and each country must be concerned for its own security, but we are applying common efforts to maintain our security using smaller arsenals. We are also cooperating on certain African problems and maritime problems. The sea routes are the great transport arteries of the world, and they require our cooperation. We must also preserve the fish in the seas, for this is part of the work to maintain the balance of global systems. All this obliges us to recognize that as well as being individual countries, each of which has its own pride and culture—and in the USSR there are many different national cultures—we are also citizens of the world who have things in common. And this requires closer cooperation during which it will surely become clear to us how a country treats its own citizens, which is also very important.

From our point of view, there are a number of basic rights that are essential to every person and that cannot be removed by the government. We can cooperate in all of these spheres.

[Correspondent] You were one of the first Western leaders to state your readiness to do business with Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev. The international climate, in particular East-West relations, have undergone extremely important and positive changes in the past 3 to 4 years. How do you see the prospects for this process and Great Britain's role in it?

[Thatcher] We have the chance to go steadily forward, and for even more considerable progress in our relations. After being in my post for 10 years it is with satisfaction that I am becoming convinced that suddenly things are becoming possible, things which 10 years ago were unthinkable. This is taking place thanks to changes in the views of world leaders, and people should be made aware of these with the aid of persuasion and wise methods of leadership. Individual changes do not, in themselves, lead to major improvements; they require painstaking work. The hardest task is to achieve changes in people's moods, and work to implement this must be undertaken at all levels, in the leadership, at the level of human contacts, at the level of business management, at the level of raising the productivity of agriculture, and also at the level of mutually advantageous trade exchanges.

Today the peoples of the world have greater grounds for optimism than ever before in the whole 10 years that I have been in Downing Street. However, speaking figuratively, one must constantly keep one's eye on the ball—that is, constantly make efforts to achieve the set aims. Even if you think that in some particular area the level of danger has decreased, as I think it has now, one should always be prepared to maintain one's own security. One should always be alert and try to prevent conflicts in other parts of the world. Today, with the presence of such conflicts, cooperation among the five permanent members of the Security Council is a new practice which, once again, has been brought to life by our multilateral contacts. Now, in response to a particular conflict we can quickly convene a conference or even more simply take up this question with the secretary general. All of that is positive experience.

And I can say that the most exciting thing is now happening in the USSR. You are striving in just a few years to carry out reforms that took us a much longer time. This is far from easy, but the aim you have set yourself is really worth the efforts being applied.

[Correspondent] We believe that the positive trends in international relations have become possible to a large extent thanks to restructuring in the USSR.

[Thatcher] Oh, yes, indeed, I agree with that. Restructuring was preceded by glasnost, for it is precisely freedom of discussion and debates which give rise to decisions that would have been unthinkable in a different atmosphere. Moreover, these processes embrace the whole country and give every citizen the sense of his own significance and his involvement in the general cause. I think that it is precisely this that has facilitated the achievement of much better international relations.

[Correspondent] What is the attitude of the British people to the changes in the USSR.

[Thatcher] They arouse lively interest among us. We wholeheartedly wish these changes success and are doing everything we can to facilitate this.

[Correspondent] In your view, what are the main problems now facing the British people.

[Thatcher] A very important question is the development of East-West relations. We have always maintained close contacts with the United States. Britain is a member of that part of Europe known as the EEC. The community's member countries are intensively developing trade links and are striving to establish uniform standards for products in all 12 community member countries on electrical goods, on everything that can be bought in shops, on cars, and also on the requirements for safety equipment. Such uniform standards should ensure all of us the opportunity to compete with each other in our products.

The importance of what is happening within the community lies in the fact that we want to show the whole world the example of how to break down some of the articially erected barriers. When we have broken down the barriers and lowered tariffs, we can say to the rest of the world that it is time to start talks on breaking down the barriers that hinder freer trade. The world will prosper if there is much more freedom of trade. It will then be easier for people to cross borders. Citizens' passports will be changed into Europassports valid in all EEC countries, and this, in addition to the uniform qualification requirements for specialists in various professions, will make it possible for people to move about more freely within Europe. This will serve as an example of how citizens of the world could move from one country to another, developing trade and opening for themselves opportunities never before thought of.

[Correspondent] What do you personally expect from the upcoming visit to Great Britain by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev?

[Thatcher] I hope we will discuss such questions as the development of trade and the exchange of delegations. It will be very interesting for me to learn about events in the USSR, because you are making gigantic strides in the political sphere; about how joint projects are being implemented; and also about the major measures you are undertaking to fill the shops with goods and provide a higher standard of living for the Soviet people. We will discuss certain global questions, because these days, if you can express it this way, international relations can influence living standards in every country. We are making every effort to preserve peace throughout the world so we do not again have to undergo the sort of terrible deprivations our country and yours suffered in two world wars. We must direct our efforts at building such a peace. I think this is our main aim.

[Correspondent] Thank you very much.

[Thatcher] I thank you also. I would like to say to the Soviet people: Allow me to wish you every success. May that great prosperity for which you are striving and which you will surely achieve come about. I also hope you will feel satisfied with your achievements and the development of cooperation among the peoples of the whole world. All the very best to you.

Thatcher 'Thaw' Toward Restructuring Noted

LD0604062389 Moscow TASS in English 0548 GMT 6 Apr 89

[Text] London April 6 TASS—By TASS special correspondent:

Soviet Leader Mikhail Gorbachev arrived here from Havana at 2300 local time. He was greeted at Heathrow Airport by British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, a special representative of the queen, and the lord chamberlain.

Protocol did not call for any official statements by either Gorbachev or Thatcher. Despite this, numerous Londoners and a large corps of reporters from the major TV networks, wire services and newspapers of many countries had gathered for the welcome ceremony.

The interest of the world press in the visit can be explained by the unprecedented pace of political dialogue between the USSR and Britain.

Many Europeans, too, still remember the December of 1984, which was an unusual month for the times of cold war, when Thatcher was receiving a Supreme Soviet Presidium delegation led by Gorbachev, then a secretary of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee, in London.

Many believe that the British prime minister was then able to perceive the first signs of the nascent breakthrough in the Helsinki process, realising that there were forces within the Soviet leadership that were capable of charting and following a fundamentally new political course.

But nobody entertained any hope of Thatcher supporting Soviet perestroyka for purely philanthropic reasons. What seemed to be, at first glance, an unexpected British move showed also a different motive, an interest dictated by the worsening international, commercial and economic position of the United Kingdom in the modern world.

Two years later, during Thatcher's visit to Moscow, however, many noticed an obvious increase in both her optimism and her candour as the common opinions of both countries on the problem of preserving peace and strengthening international security had finally prevailed in bilateral relations.

The thaw in the British leader's attitude to changes in the USSR perhaps also began in Moscow: political calculations no longer carried greater weight than the desire to shed the stereotypes of the past once and for all and to gain a deeper understanding of the substance of the renewal drive in the Soviet Union.

Combined with the sincerity, charm and great tact with which Thatcher shared not only her views on the present world but also her concern about it on Soviet Television during her stay in Moscow, all these shifts make it possible to understand why her days in the Soviet capital added thousands of Soviet people to the number of her admirers in the world.

USSR Officials Meet Press on Gorbachev Visit

LD0404234189 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1922 GMT 4 Apr 89

[From a "special edition" of "The World Today" program; presenter not identified]

[Text] [Unidentified presenter] The Soviet press center for coverage of Comrade Gorbachev's forthcoming visit to Great Britain has opened in London. Our special correspondent reports from the English capital:

[A. Ptashnikov, identified by caption] The press center is sited in one of the central London hotels. It is in this very place that journalists from almost all countries of our planet will be able to obtain the necessary information for their work, various periodical publications and press releases, and ask questions of members of the Soviet delegation and experts during news conferences. [video shows exterior of building labelled "Soviet Press Center," English-language books on display]

The first of the news conferences—which, incidentally, prompted the most lively interest among representatives of the foreign mass media—was devoted to questions of the political and economic reforms in the Soviet Union. Participating in the press conference were: Valentina Vladimirovna Tereshkova, chairman of the Presidium of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship With Peoples of Foreign Countries; Yevgeniy Maksimovich Primakov, director of the World Economics and International Relations Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences; Vitaliy Iosifovich Goldanskiy, director of the Chemical Physics Institute of the USSR Academy of

Sciences; and Viktor Ivanovich Trefilov, vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences. [video shows views of conference, with camera focusing on each of the above-mentioned Soviet participants in the press conference, who are seated on a stage, as each of their names are given]

At the start of the press conference, Comrade Grachev, deputy chief of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee, briefly acquainted the correspondents with the program for Comrade Gorbachev's stay in the English capital. [video shows Grachev, seated in middle of group on stage, speaking]

Then, answers were given to the journalists' questions on the main topic of the press conference. A question from a BBC Television correspondent: What will be the procedure for electing the new composition of the USSR Supreme Soviet? [video shows unidentified reporter in hall asking a question]

[Tereshkova] After byelections are held in our country—that means that for those 12 percent, around 12 percent, of deputies who did not obtain the sufficient number of votes for election to the Supreme Soviet, elections will be held again—the first Congress of People's Deputies will take place.

[Grachev] Besides the election of deputies to the Supreme Soviet, the Congress will elect the chairman of the Supreme Soviet. Finally, one more important feature is that during the 5-year term of the Congress and its deputies, the rotation of essentially all its members is proposed, with the intention that in the 5-year period virtually all the elected people's deputies will have their spell in the Supreme Soviet in the course of such a period.

[Ptashnikov] A Swiss journalist is interested in what the necessary measures for improving agriculture in the USSR are. [video shows unidentified reporter asking question]

[Primakov] You know, with that question you are touching on one of the most important issues for us now, because truly the economic sphere of restructuring is the hardest sphere for us. And this is happening, did happen, because, in my view, even 4 years ago we were insufficiently informed about the degree to which the economy was unbalanced. One of the chief questions is the agricultural question, because it is linked with the fact that it is necessary to provide sufficient food—high-quality food, in all its diversity—for the population. Our party Central Committee plenum, the March plenum that has just been held, in which Valentina Tereshkova and I participated, can be called, in general, a watershed, Why? Because in practice, until the present we solved questions of agricultural production by increasing the financing of that sector, putting our faith mainly in increasing investment and in scientific-technical progress. These questions remain open today. However, today the emphasis is being placed on something else. The emphasis is being placed on using virtually all the forms of property possible under socialism and on using all the forms of organization of production on the land. Therefore, we are standing up for and speaking in favor of both collective and state farms, whereby lease-contracting can develop widely in collective and state farms. We are in favor of lease-contracting out with collective and state farms, and at the same time we are in favor of peasant farms, so-called private farms, where the peasant will, in practice, own the land over a very long period, 50 years or perhaps more.

[Unidentified member of audience, in Russian] What is the (?true state) of affairs in the Ukraine in connection with the fact that the Soviet press has recently been expressing alarm over the consequences of that catastrophe?

[Trefilov] The Chernobyl catastrophe was indeed a most deep misfortune for people. It was a very deep misfortune. To give a specific answer to the question that has been asked, I want to say that the situation in the Ukraine and Belorussia has stabilized. The areas of pollution and the level of pollution are known precisely; appropriate maps have been published in the Soviet press in both Belorussia and the Ukraine. There is a large number of places from which people had to be moved out, and where they will not be living again for a long time, although the territory has been decontaminated; nontheless, there are plants that have gotten into the soil. [sentence as heard] But we've already accustomed ourselves to this disaster somehow, and we have found ways and methods of combating it.

I can say that in all the major cities of the Ukraine—Kiev, say—weekly information is now being published on the level of radioactivity of all the largest cities surrounding the zone of the accident. They are very small figures.

[Ptashnikov] Is a space flight by an Englishwoman among a Soviet crew possible? This was a question from the correspondent of the PRESS ASSOCIATION agency. [video shows unidentified reporter asking question]

[Tereshkova] I know that negotiations are being conducted now regarding the signing of an agreement on training representatives of your country for a flight, a joint flight, into space. And, if there is an Englishwoman among those representatives, I think we shall all welcome that ardently. As for the cosmonauts' training center, I can tell you that we shall render all manner of assistance during her training for the forthcoming flight.

[Ptashnikov] A British journalist is interested in knowing whether Boris Yeltsin intends to organize his own faction in the new USSR Supreme Soviet?

[Primakov] Well, it seems to me that the fact that Boris Yeltsin was elected by a very good majority of the Moscow electorate—about 90 percent of the vote—shows that, indeed, if the will of the people is being shown, even if it runs counter to a certain section of the apparatus, then this will conquers. That's what democracy is, that's what democracy is.

As far as Boris Yeltsin personally is concerned, he is undoubtedly a very capable man, decisive perhaps, but at the same time, I, for example, do not think that he should somehow be identified with the line directed against Gorbachev, as is sometimes done in the Western media. Speaking at a news conference recently, Yeltsin said he considers Gorbachev the leader who answers best the demands at this historic time, and that he in no way separates himself in the strategic sense from Mikhail Gorbachev's line. If one wishes to speak about how this matter of Yeltsin's election was received, I'll tell you that it was received well. The announcement was made, so to speak, with all Yeltsin's titles, indicating that he is a member of the Central Committee, and so on, and so forth. I don't see that there is any problem here, though that impression is sometimes created artificially in some of the mass media.

[Grachev] I am not aware—I don't know if anyone can refute this—of any such plans by Deputy Yeltsin. On the other hand, I think that within the framework of the future work of the future Supreme Soviet, the most varied groups of delegates who will be united by the same interests, concerns, and drafts of appropriate resolutions, and so on, may be formed on specific issues. I don't think that here the principle of unity will be unity around any individual, including as notable a one as Deputy Yeltsin.

[Ptashnikov] A representative of the BBC asks: What will be the consequences of unsuccessful flights of the "Phobos" probes? [video shows unidentified reporter asking question]

[Goldanskiy] Although I myself am not a specialist in the field of space research, generally speaking no single major enterprise passes without failure. What happened at first with one "Phobos," and then with a second, occurred for various reasons, as I understand it. The first "Phobos" was simply the result of a gross error by the operators who programmed the dialogue with this space probe. As far as the second "Phobos" is concerned, the precise causes have still not been established. Communications with "Phobos" were lost. On 9 April it was suggested that there would be the maximum proximity and landing, but communications were virtually lost then and the expedition ended in failure. The causes of this are now being looked into. One way or another, we are very limited on this matter. This always happens when great efforts and great expenditure end in failure. This is undoubtedly a very unpleasant occurrence, but I think it will not reflect on subsequent attempts to carry out research into the nearer planets, in particular the Mars program, which is envisaged as one of the main programs of the USSR Academy of Sciences and other organizations for the next decade.

[Tereshkova] The information received from "Phobos-2" gives great material for information processing, and we have obtained unique pictures not only of Mars from a fairly short distance, but of the Phobos moon, too, which will enable scientists, I think, to make very great, serious discoveries regarding the origin of the solar system.

[Ptashnikov] The final question for Comrade Primakov. What is your assessment of how the Western press covers Mr Gorbachev's activities? [video shows unidentified reporter asking question]

[Primakov] We have already departed from our old position when we used to say that if the West praised someone, that meant he had done something bad. [laughter] We know perfectly well that in the West the sense of analysis is pretty well developed; we know perfectly well that there have been many objective comments. We also understand the interest of the overwhelming majority of politicians and of the population of the West in the fact that a positive and stable situation has developed in the USSR, and that restructuring, and so on, is in progress. This is linked with the name of Gorbachev, and when this is linked with the name of Gorbachev, and when in these conditions many good things are said about Gorbachev, this impresses all Soviet people.

[Grachev] I think we have also departed from the situation where we gave too active and importunate advice to the Western press as to what they should concentrate their attention on. Our experience shows that more often than not the press disregarded this advice.

[Ptashnikov] At this point the press conference ended, but the Press Center itself continues its work. Over the next few days it will be one of the main sources of information for journalists on the progress of Comrade Gorbachev's stay in the British capital.

Artists Participate in News Conference on Visit

LD0504190189 Moscow TASS in English 1834 GMT 5 Apr 89

[Text] London April 5 TASS—By TASS special correspondents Nikolay Zheleznov, Vitaliy Chukseyev and Gennadiy Shiskin:

Lively and sometimes heated discussions marked a news conference in the Soviet press centre in London on Wednesday in the runup to Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to Britain.

The news conference focused on "Perestroyka in the Soviet Union, Its Cultural and Moral Aspects, Interethnic Relations".

Soviet participants in the meeting included writers Anatoliy Ananyev, Vladimir Bekman and Olzhas Suleymenov, playwright Mikhail Shatrov and painter Andrey Vasnetsov.

Asked to comment on a letter signed by 212 British members of Parliament (MP's) in Wednesday's issue of the newspaper THE TIMES that accused the Soviet Union of human rights violations, Mikhail Shatrov said:

"This letter reflects concern over the human rights issue. We are much more concerned with this issue. The Soviet Union has made considerable headway in this sphere in the last four years. However, much remains to be done in this direction. Letters like the one published in THE TIMES will only put the authors in a position of breaking into an open door."

Andrew Grachev, head of the Soviet Press Centre, said that the message of British MP's is a useful reminder of the fact that human rights issue is a righful and a quite legal topic in the political dialogue between East and West.

Grachev also hoped that MP's who signed the letter will show equal concern for the human rights situation in other countries, including Britain.

Vladimir Bekman spoke on the problem of interethnic relations in the Soviet Baltic republics. He said people in the Baltics were among the first to realise its importance because their region was among the hardest hit by the Stalin's model of socialism.

Olzhas Suleymenov told reporters of the "Nevada" group in Kazakhstan, which has been set to protest against nuclear tests. The writer said that world peace must be advocated not only from the international rostrum, but at home as well. The new organisation serves precisely this purpose.

"We hope a similar organisation will emerge in the U.S. state of Nevada and will be named Kazakhstan," he said.

Reporters also asked the Soviet representatives about their attitude to the controversy around the British author Salman Rushdie and his novel "The Satanic Verses".

Insults against faith are inadmissible, the Soviet writers said. This is why the book is so sharply criticized by the Muslims.

On the other hand, the persecution of the author is also inadmissible, they said.

It was also mentioned at the press conference that Margaret Thatcher and Mikhail Gorbachev were expected to extensively discuss cultural exchanges between Britain and the Soviet Union during their talks in London.

British MP's Welcome Gorbachev Visit

LD0604053789 Moscow TASS in English 0532 GMT 6 Apr 89

London April 6 TASS—Some 150 deputies of British Parliament signed a draft resolution welcoming Mikhail Gorbachev's visit, MORNING STAR reported on Thursday.

The parliamentarians stressed that the visit of the Soviet leader was a positive step on the way to peace and friendship between the British and Soviet nations.

USSR Official Views Scientific Ties With UK

PM0504155289 London MORNING STAR in English 5 Apr 89 p 4

[Article by Aleksandr Serdyuk, deputy chief of the USSR Scientific and Technical Cooperation With Capitalist and Developing Countries Administration: "Cooperation, Confidence"]

[Text] Today all of us are witnessing an exceedingly interesting and important period in East-West relations, specifically, in Europe.

Positive tendencies are obviously gaining an upper hand, and their development shows that the idea of "a common European home" is increasingly becoming acceptable to the European nations.

This implies the recognition of a certain reality, even though we are speaking of countries that have different social systems and belong to opposing sociopolitical alliances.

Many positive processes underway in Europe now draw on this recognition for their development, and part of these processes directly affect Europe's huge scientific, technological and economic potential.

The current state of affairs in the economies of the European nations and the growing danger to ecology are such that it is becoming necessary and possible to find a mechanism to correlate this potential.

A search for such a mechanism proceeds on a multilateral basis, though its present-day foundation was mainly laid by bilateral contacts, for example between the Soviet-British agreements.

The legal basis for the scientific and technological cooperation between the two countries is to be found in various intergovernmental Soviet-British agreements.

For instance, on the development of economic, scientific and industrial cooperation; in the field of medicine and public health; in the field of the conservation of the environment; in the field of the study, investigation and use of outer space for peaceful purposes and on contacts in the scientific, educational and cultural fields in 1987-89.

In more recent years the framework of cooperation has expanded through such interdepartmental agreements as the memorandum between the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology and the British Department of Energy on the scientific and technological cooperation in the field of the fuel/energy complex.

And the memorandum between the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology and the British Department of Transport on cooperation in the field of railway transport.

Joint efforts are coordinated by the Soviet-British Intergovernmental Commission for Cooperation in the Fields of Applied Science, Technology, Trade and Economic Relations whose sitting took place in October 1988, as well as by joint working groups.

Last year there were regular sittings of the groups for instrument-building and automation; coal industry; energy; and machine-tool making, plus the first sittings of a working group for medicine and biotechnology and a group for railway transport.

So far the activities in the field of science and technology within the framework of the above agreements and working groups, have not yet reached their full potential, though they have become markedly vigorous of late.

Of considerable importance in this connection is the general interest in the expansion of the role scientific and technological progress is playing in economic development.

This country has been shaping its approaches toward the solution of this problem within the framework of today's restructuring of economic and social relations. Britain began a search for such approaches somewhat earlier.

Yet, the approaches the two nations use are quite similar.

The differences that do exist stem mainly from the USSR having a different form of ownership of the means of production and certain peculiarities in its economic, financial and other forms of legislation as well as of economic management.

In the Soviet Union a good deal of attention is paid to the democratisation of the methods of management, and to the promotion of the human factor.

As in Britain and other West European nations, the Soviet Union aims to accelerate scientific and technological progress through programmes of international cooperation, primarily through its participation in the Comprehensive Programme of Scientific and Technological Progress of the Comecon Countries.

There is a list of problems related to the need to accelerate scientific and technological progress that are common to the USSR and Britain.

Yet, we would also like to touch on another range of issues: foreign economic ties that are often the result and the goal of scientific and technological cooperation.

The Soviet Union continues the restructuring of its foreign economic activities, based on understanding the advantages of the international division of labour and economic, scientific and technological cooperation with other nations.

This restructuring goes along the line of updating the laws and providing organisational structures for this cooperation in the course of which enterprises, agencies and whole industries are able to establish direct contacts with foreign countries.

Specifically, the laws on the creation and functioning of joint ventures on the territory of this country are being updated.

This form of cooperation opens up favourable prospects for deepening the international division of labour in a mutually beneficial way.

The activities connected with establishment of joint ventures have had an effect on Soviet-British relations too.

To date, dozens of memorandums intending to create Soviet-British ventures have been signed.

Some have already been registered and have started work. These include the Dinamika in Moscow which manufactures and markets teaching and other complexes plus hardware and software, and the Feshtek in the town of Borispol which manufactures and markets hygienic products for women.

Under present conditions international trade and economic relations, connected with the transfer of technologies, are not only a result of scientific and technological cooperation, they also incorporate some of its elements which could become long-term joint efforts rather than one-shot business transactions.

To achieve major positive changes in this system, the countries with different social systems must dispose of mutual mistrust, make sure that each of the partners is interested in solving global problems and shape common approaches to their solution.

Emerging as one of the major objectives in this process is the necessity to search for points of contact between political and economic interests of states, to shape a common platform for making economic cooperation a powerful factor of confidence-building and to reduce tensions on the basis of recognised global tasks.

This is the line along which the high-level dialogue between the Soviet Union and Britain is developing, a dialogue that holds out so much hope for the further improvements of relations, the development of a wide spectrum of Soviet-British contacts including those in the fields of economy, science and technology.

French Defense Minister Continues USSR Visit

Meets With Ryzhkov

LD0504132789 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1235 GMT 5 Apr 89

[Text] Moscow 5 Apr (TASS)—In the Kremlin today Nikolay Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received Jean-Pierre Chevenement, France's minister of defense, who is in the Soviet Union by invitation of USSR Defense Minister Army General Dmitriy Yazov, who also took part in the ensuing conversation.

Welcoming his French visitor, Nikolay Ryzhkov stressed that his visit is seen in the Soviet Union not merely as confirmation of France's desire for the re-establishment of military contacts between the two countries, whose traditions go back a long way, but also as the beginning of their elevation to a qualitatively new level. The rappprochement of the two countries' approaches to a whole range of important issues relating to international security allows the new, positive trends in Soviet-French relations to be strengthened and developed.

Dwelling on the processes of renewal in the Soviet Union, the chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers outlined restructuring measures in the military sphere. Soviet military doctrine, he said, has been radically reviewed to give it a defensive thrust. Practical work has begun to alter the structure of the armed forces. The USSR is preparing to actively implement the recently announced unilateral arms and personnel cuts and is drawing up plans for the conversion of a number of defense enterprises. The military budget and production of military hardware are being reduced. All these steps confirm the consistency of the foreign political course and the initiatives the USSR is proposing on the international scene in the interests of genuine disarmament and a strengthening of European and universal peace and security.

Jean-Pierre Chevenement welcomed the Soviet Union's practical measures for reducing its armed forces, spoke in a positive spirit of the peace-loving Soviet initiatives, and placed a high value on Mikhail Gorbachev's speech at the United Nations.

Speaking of the need to deepen the common European process, the participants in the conversation stressed the significance of the talks that have begun in Vienna on conventional armed forces and confidence- and security-building measures in Europe.

At the same time, the Soviet side also drew attention to phenomena that are having a negative effect on development of the military-political situation and the general climate on the continent. At issue first and foremost are the plans for increasing nuclear potential being elaborated or already implemented in certain West European countries.

In explaining the French position, which is based on the concept of nuclear deterrence, Jean-Pierre Chevenement noted that France bases its military policy on the principle of minimal sufficiency for defense and has no intention of threatening anyone. In his words, the military-integrational processes currently underway in West Europe primarily reflect the aspiration of the West European countries to play a more active role in guaranteeing their own security.

At the request of the French defense minister, Nikolay Ryzhkov talked about the Soviet leadership's evaluation of the results of the elections of the USSR people's deputies and about the prospects for the further course of reform of the Soviet Union's political system. In this connection it was stressed that the profound changes underway in the formation and functioning of the organs of Soviet power will undoubtedly have a favorable effect also on Soviet military construction and on the further expansion of glasnost and openness in this area.

Jean-Pierre Chevenement said that people in France welcome the restructuring process in the USSR and understand its exceptionally great significance not only for deepening mutual understanding between the USSR and France, but also for the cause of peace in Europe and the world as a whole.

Present at the talk, which passed in a friendly atmosphere, were Vladimir Petrovskiy, USSR deputy foreign minister; Army General Vitaliy Shabanov, USSR deputy defense minister; Yves Pagniez, French ambassador to the USSR; and Jean-Michel Boucheron, president of the French National Assembly Defense Commission.

Meets With Yazov

LD0504153989 Moscow TASS in English 1518 GMT 5 Apr 89

[Text] Moscow April 5 TASS—French Defense Minister Jean-Pierre Chevenement continued talks with his Soviet counterpart General Dmitriy Yazov here Wednesday.

The negotiating delegations included First Deputy Defense Minister and Chief of Staff General Mikhail Moiseyev and other officials on the Soviet side, and Ambassador of France to the USSR Yves Pagniez on the French side.

Also today, Chevenement visited the Kliment Voroshilov Military Academy of the Soviet Armed Forces General Staff where he was acquainted with the organisation of the educational process.

The French minister gave a news conference at the Foreign Ministry's Press Centre.

Addresses News Conference

LD0504191589 Moscow TASS in English 1808 GMT 5 Apr 89

[Text] Moscow April 5 TASS—For twelve years no French defense minister has been to the USSR and this present visit reflects the desire on the part of France to expand bilateral contacts and exchanges, including those in the military field, said France's Defense Minister Jean-Pierre Chevenement at a news conference in the press centre of the Soviet Foreign Ministry on Wednesday. He is on an official visit to the Soviet Union at the invitation of alternate member of the Politburo, Soviet defense minister, Army-General Dmitriy Yazov.

Jean-Pierre Chevenement said that the French side had prepared a draft agreement on contacts in the military field which provides, among other things, for direct links between the armed forces of the two countries, training of military doctors on an exchange basis, exchanges of delegations of senior and junior officers, film exchanges and the holding of joint sport events.

The idea is that after the draft agreement has been examined by the Soviet side, the defense minister said, it will be submitted for initialing to the heads of state during the Soviet-French summit early in July in Paris.

The discussions in Moscow were at times tense but undoubtedly useful, Jean-Pierre Chevenement said. He admitted the achievement of definite successes in the matter of European security. These are the conclusion of the Soviet-American INF Treaty, the talks on strategic offensive arms and, finally, the talks on chemical weapons, which, in the words of the French defense minister, "must lead to a total ban on this type of weapons."

Referring to the Vienna talks, Jean-Pierre Chevenement said that, potentially, one could achieve a lot at them to enhance security in Europe. He reminded in this connection that twenty years ago General De Gaulle spoke of Europe as a single entity stretching from the Atlantic to the Urals with a real historical and cultural commonality.

The French defense minister said that his conversations with the Soviet military leadership and with junior officers and soldiers during his visits to the Tamanskaya Division and the air force base in Kubinka, had been useful. He was impressed by the frank nature of the demonstration of military equipment, including the MiG-29 fighter-interceptor and the Mi-35 helicopter and of the fighting tactics of Soviet airborne troops and tank units.

Jean-Pierre Chevenement will complete the programme of his stay in the USSR by a visit to a naval base in Murmansk and a visit to Volgograd which interests the minister "as a place where the outcome of World War II was decided."

Seen Off by Yazov

LD0604092889 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0840 GMT 6 Apr 89

[Text] Moscow, 6 Apr (TASS)—French Defense Minister Jean-Paul Chevenement, who is in the Soviet Union on an official visit at the invitation of Army General Dmitriy Yazov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR defense minister, today left Moscow on a tour of the country.

At the airport the guest was seen off by Army General Yazov and other officials.

Moiseyev Views French Defense Minister's Visit

LD0504144789 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1409 GMT 5 Apr 89

[Text] Moscow 5 Apr (TASS)—"Following our meetings with Jean-Pierre Chevenement, the French defense minister, we have come to the unanimous conclusion that Europe is our common home. And therefore we must do all we possibly can to ensure that Europeans do not dread the morrow. We can see one way out: It is essential to reduce the level of our military confrontation," said Army General Mikhail Moiseyev, chief of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff, in an interview with TASS correspondent Oleg Moskovskiy. Mikhail Moiseyev had been taking part in the talks Army General Dmitriy Yazov, USSR defense minister, held with his French counterpart.

During the conversation, the chief of the General Staff continued, it transpired that there are fundamental differences between us and the French side on a whole range of issues, including on the imbalance of forces in Europe. Here definite efforts were made to work out mutually acceptable solutions.

"The meeting between the defense ministers has given grounds for some optimism. For the first time in 12 years, the defense ministers of our countries have gotten together around the negotiating table. The search for points of contact to allow the adoption of compromise solutions will be continued," Army General Moiseyev said in conclusion.

Petrovskiy Meets Italy's Andreotti in Moscow

LD0504204889 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1914 GMT 5 Apr 89

[Text] Moscow, 5 Apr (TASS)—Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti made a brief stopover in Moscow today on his way from Tokyo to Rome.

He was met at the airport by Vladimir Petrovskiy, USSR deputy foreign minister. An exchange of views took place on international issues and, in particular, on the situation concerning settlement of some of the most acute regional problems. The difficulties on the path of implementing the Geneva agreements on Afghanistan and the UN decisions on Namibia were noted with anxiety. In connection with this, the two stressed that all interested sides must demonstrate a responsible approach and the United Nations must fulfill its important role.

Giulio Andreotti noted the great interest evoked worldwide by Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to Cuba.

Considerable attention was paid to the Vienna talks on reducing armed forces and on confidence-building measures in Europe. The importance of bringing the two sides' positions closer in order to preserve the dynamism of the European disarmament process which is taking shape was particularly noted.

Mutual satisfaction was also voiced with the level of mutual understanding, and the joint search for new opportunities for broader interaction, which is characteristic of Soviet-Italian relations, was also noted.

Deputy Premier Talyzin Begins Finland Visit

Seen Off by Yazov 4 Apr

LD0504090789 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0700 GMT 5 Apr 89

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] A Soviet delegation headed by Comrade Talyzin left Moscow for Finland late in the evening of 4 April. It will take part in the festivities marking the 41st anniversary of the USSR-Finland Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Aid signed in 1948. Comrade Yazov and other officials saw the delegation off.

Arrives in Finland

LD0504160489 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0700 GMT 5 Apr 89

[Text] Lappeenranta (southeastern Finland), 5 April (TASS)—A delegation from the Soviet Union led by N.V. Talyzin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, arrived here today to participate in the celebrations of the 41st anniversary of the bilateral treaty of friendship, cooperation, and mutual aid.

The delegation was met at Vainikkala railway station by Matti Jaatinen, governor of Kymi Province, and Jarmo Kolhi, mayor of Lappeenranta and leader of the "Finland-Soviet Union" society.

Commemorates Friendship Treaty

LD0504205189 Moscow TASS in English 2038 GMT 5 Apr 89

[Text] Lappeenranta, Finland, April 5 TASS—By TASS correspondent:

In the festively bedecked "Lappeenranta" hall of the city council a meeting was held today to mark the 41st anniversary of the 1948 treaty on friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance between the Soviet Union and Finland.

The meeting was attended by Finland's President Mauno Koivisto, Foreign Minister Pertti Paasio, and a Soviet delegation led by Politburo alternate member, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Nikolay Talyzin.

The Foreign minister of Finland and the head of the Soviet delegation exchanged speeches.

Finland's principal foreign policy objective in the post-war years was to start and develop bilateral relations with the Soviet Union, P. Paasio said. This work has been pursued successfully: The Finish-Soviet relations are now characterised by goodneighbourliness and large-scale cooperation. A major role in developing the bilateral relations is played by reciprocal visits and by active businesslike contacts at different levels. Priority in this respect belongs to Soviet-Finnish summit meetings. In this connection, it is difficult to overestimate the significance of the coming official visit to Finland in the fall of this year by general secretary of the CPSU CC [Central Committee], President of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Mikhail Gorbachev. During the visit the sides will examine in detail all the aspects of relations between the two countries. Preparations for this visit have already begun in Finland, the foreign minister said.

Nikolay Talyzin noted that the present level of Soviet-Finnish cooperation was a viable model of interstate relations, based on the principles of equality and mutual respect. Mikhail Gorbachev's coming visit to Finland will be of exceptional importance for the further development of the bilateral relations. This visit is perceived as a major development, expected to impart a powerful renewing impetus to the whole set of the relations of cooperation between the USSR and Finland. We are convinced that the new meeting of the leaders of our countries will also be a major milestone in the restructuring of the international relations, based on the supremacy of general human values, the head of the Soviet delegation said.

Latin America & Caribbean

Reportage on Gorbachev's Visit to Cuba

Communique on Gorbachev-Castro Talks

LD0504092589 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 4 Apr 89

[Text] A communique has been issued on the meetings and discussions the Soviet and Cuban leaders, Mikhail Gorbachev and Fidel Castro, had on Monday and Tuesday in Havana.

The communique says Mikhail Gorbachev and Fidel Castro informed each other in detail about the situation in their two countries and the tasks the two communist parties were trying to carry out.

The two leaders agreed that socialism was at a turning point, a highly responsible point of development. It was a point when many problems of the vital activity of society were raised anew and when it was becoming opportune and necessary to reveal more fully the humane and creative potential of the socialist system.

International questions figured prominently at the talks. When the two leaders were sharing views on the general course of recent world events the views coincided. It had become feasible to gear international relations to disarmament, development and a joint solution of global problems.

Fidel Castro on his part stressed full Cuban support for the new political thinking the Soviet Union had put forward.

Gorbachev and Castro had much to say about the burning problem of settling regional conflicts. They expressed satisfaction about the prospect to put paid to armed aggression against Angola and proclaim Namibia independent. Fidel Castro pointed out that the Cubans and Angolans had displayed goodwill and intended to abide by the undertaken commitments. He hoped the other signatories would do the same.

There should be no repetition of the current events in Afghanistan.

During their talks the two leaders reviewed the issue of Soviet-American and Cuban-American relations. Fidel Castro said Cuba was always ready to normalize relations with the United States. However so far Washington had not expressed a similar desire.

Mikhail Gorbachev pointed out that in its relations with the United States the Soviet Union gave priority to disarmament and other issues concerning the world community. As is known, the Soviet leader said, Washington continued to analyze the current situation, including the prospects of the policy of perestroyka in the Soviet Union. Let them analyze, he went on to say. We on our part did not sit idle and used the time to jointly anzlyze the situation with the allied socialist countries to draft new approaches toward international politics with West European and other nations.

In this connection the forthcoming trip to Beijing and visits to Great Britain, West Germany and France would be of special importance, Mikhail Gorbachev said.

During the talks the two sides reviewed in detail the situation in Central America. It was pointed out that the acute problems facing the region could not be resolved by military means. The two sides agreed it was vital to provide the opportunity to the Latin American countries to secure a peace settlement independently through the Latin American community. The two leaders expressed their countries' readiness to do all they could to promote the process.

Mikhail Gorbachev and Fidel Castro expressed deep satisfaction with the exchange of views. Mikhail Gorbachev said nothing could replace personal communication. Yes, agreed Fidel Castro, we had received answers to many questions and had found new important solutions. The talks, he said, had further promoted our friendship.

That was a report on a communique issued on the meetings and discussions that the Soviet and Cuban leaders Mikhail Gorbachev and Fidel Castro had on Monday and Tuesday in Havana.

Gorbachev, Castro Visit Medical Center

LD0404173789 Moscow TASS in English 1731 GMT 4 Apr 89

[Text] Havana April 4 TASS—Mikhail Gorbachev and Fidel Castro who are making a tour of Havana saw on Tuesday a "family physician" medical centre in Arroyo Naranjo, near Havana. They are accompanied by Raisa Gorbacheva and Vilma Espin, member of the Politburo of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee and head of the Cuban Women's Federation.

The "family physician" medical assistance system is simple and effective: A physician renders medical assistance to residents of several blocks or a village and lives in the same neighbourhood as his patients. He is given a house. Its first floor is taken up by a medical consultation centre with the most essential equipment. The physician and his family live on the second floor. This year three-storeyed medical-centre houses began to be built in Cuba which also include a flat for a nurse.

Gorbachev, Castro Visit Research Center

LD0404162689 Moscow TASS in English 1608 GMT 4 Apr 89

[Text] Havana April 4 TASS—In the course of his official friendly visit to Cuba, Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev toured a bio-engineering research centre here.

Mikhail Gorbachev was accompanied by Cuban leader Fidel Castro.

Soviet-Cuban cooperation in science covers at present a number of fields, with over 110 projects included in joint research.

The Soviet and Cuban Academies of Sciences concentrate on foremost problems that can provide pivotal [information] for scientific and technological progress. These include bioengineering, computers, automated planning and management, automated research work, theoretical and nuclear physics.

Leaders at Signing of Amity Treaty

LD0504110789 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0157 GMT 5 Apr 89

[Text] Havana, 5 Apr (TASS)—The signing of a treaty on friendship and cooperation between the USSR and the Republic of Cuba took place at the Palace of Congresses in the Cuban capital.

The treaty was signed by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers of the Republic of Cuba.

Present at the signing from the Soviet side were: E.A Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister; A.N. Yakovlev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; V.M. Kamentsev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; and Y.V. Petrov, USSR ambassador in the Republic of Cuba.

From the Cuban side were: K.R. Rodriguez, vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers of the Republic; J. Risquet Valdes, member of the Political Bureau and Secretariat of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Central Committee; J. Almeida Bosque, member of the PCC Central Committee Political Bureau, chairman of the National Control and Review Committee of the PCC, and vice president of the Council of State; J. Camacho Aguilera, member of the PCC Central Committee Political Bureau and ambassador of the Cuban Republic to the USSR; I. Malmierca, Cuban foreign minister; and other officials.

Comparison of Gorbachev Speech

PM0604110589

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 6 April 1989 carries in its Second Edition on page 2 a TASS report on the speech given by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, on 5 April at the ceremonial session of the Cuban National Assembly in the Palace of Congresses. Comparison of the PRAVDA item, under the general heading "Ceremonial Session of Cuban National Assembly," with the Moscow TASS International Service in Russian version published in the 5 April Soviet DAILY REPORT pp 42-48 reveals the following variations:

Page 44, column one, line four in the PRAVDA version reads: ...of its people.

Notwithstanding all the great things that have taken shape in our society, serious change is still needed.

While pondering this and checking our past and present against Leninist guidelines, we realized that our difficulties are linked with deformations of socialism that stem from the far-off thirties and with our underestimation of the significance of people's direct interests, their enterprise and initiative. In other words, with our inability to exploit our system's main strength—its human and humanist potential.

In fact, why have we performed miracles in space, yet on some occasions failed to ensure the most essential elements in our everyday life? Why did our progress slow down despite our major achievements in a number of important areas? And, last, how did it come about that the phenomena of moral corrosion, apathy, and egoism, which are alien to socialism, arose in our society?

Lenin loved to reiterate that anyone who failed to grasp general questions would inevitably err on the details and would be doomed to wander in darkness.

We are confronted... (picking up second paragraph, first sentence, adding four paragraphs)

Page 44, column one, second paragraph, last sentence in the PRAVDA version reads: ...humanism and progress. That is our aim, and this is the essence of the course of restructuring chosen by our party and people.

A crucial aspect... (picking up third paragraph, first sentence, adding sentence)

Page 48, column two last paragraph in the PRAVDA version reads: ...fraternal Cuban people.

The speeches given by F. Castro and M.S. Gorbachev were frequently accompanied by applause.

The deputies ratified the USSR-Cuban Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation. (adding two paragraphs)

Castro Rebuffs Reporter

LD0504050489 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0211 GMT 5 Apr 89

[From the "Mayak Panorama" program]

[Excerpts] [Announcer Georgiy Alekseyev] At the microphone is the presenter of the international section of Mayak Panorama is Georgiy Alekseyev. Today is the final day of the official friendly visit to Cuba by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev. Our special correspondent Yuriy Isayev reports from Havana.

[Isayev] The past day was the most important one in the course of the visit of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev to Cuba. The signing took place of the treaty of friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and the Republic of Cuba. Mikhail Sergeyevich delivered a big address at a festive meeting of the National Assembly of Cuban People's Power, and after this a news conference took place. [passage omitted]

At 1500 Havana time the festive meeting of the National Assembly of Cuban People's Power opened. The deputies welcomed Comrades Gorbachev and Fidel Castro with protracted applause. As always, the Cuban leader made an emotional speech. He especially singled out the fraternal relations between the USSR and Cuba, which have risen to a new level as a result of the Soviet leader's visit. Touching on our restructuring, the Cuban leader stressed that the Soviet Union follows its own way and does not impose its methods on anyone. But the principle of Marxism-Leninism is the basic one, both for Cuba and for the Soviet Union.

Comrade Gorbachev delivered a big speech. A profound analysis was given of Soviet-Cuban relations; and prospects for expanding economic cooperation were outlined. Comrade Gorbachev touched on many international problems and dwelled in detail on questions of a peaceful settlement in Central America and on the problem of foreign indebtedness.

Then a news conference by Comrades Gorbachev and Fidel Castro took place. It was lively and interesting. When the correspondent of channel 13 of Chilean television attempted, nevertheless, to spoil the general elated atmosphere by introducing a marring note, by saying that Cuba submits to Soviet diktat, he received a worthy rebuff on the part of Fidel Castro. Fidel said that he very highly respects Comrade Gorbachev for the fact when he goes that to another country, he does not say what that country must do.

Today Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev will leave Cuba. The whole of Havana will again take to the streets to say goodbye to the high guest. But the warmth of the meetings with the Soviet leader will live for a long time to come in the Cubans' hearts.

Correction to News Conference

WA0604175389

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Gorbachev, Castro Hold News Conference," published in the 5 April Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, on pages 50-54:

page 53, column one, fourth paragraph, last sentence make read: ...no such problem. [new graf]

Question: I would like to know how the restoration process is going in Armenia. At the same time, I would like to emphasize our readiness, and particularly that of graduates from Soviet higher education establishments, to travel to Armenia to give assistance.

M.S. Gorbachev: You know the scale of the earthquake in Armenia. It is immense, and first and foremost are the human losses. It is an immense and grave human tragedy that took thousands of lives and destroyed thousands of families, not to mention the fact that towns and dozens of small settlements were destroyed. Taking the opportunity of this meeting, I would like to express sincere gratitude to everyone from all of our peoples for the response and for the vast, irreplaceable aid, and primarily for the moral support we received at that time. This aid is continuing. Plans have now been worked out to rebuild the zones that were at the epicenter of the earthquake. The initial calculations showed that it would cost us some R8-10 billion. Now it is clear that R12-14 billion will be needed. All Soviet republics have volunteered resources, manpower, and construction equipment to implement this program in the next 2 or 3 years. Work is going ahead at full speed. The CPSU Central Committee Politburo commission on the revival of the part of Armenia that was destroyed is operating and is heading all the work. These issues are being examined regularly not only in the republic, but also by the government and the CPSU Central Committee Politburo. We shall be doing everything we can to revive this region. At the moment, those who have been left homeless are being taken care of. They have all been settled and have found work, all the children are at school, and everything necessary is being done.

Question: First and foremost, I want to congratulate the Soviet people and the Cubans on the signing of the treaty of friendship and cooperation. Comrade Gorbachev has mentioned the situation in Lebanon. The whole world knows that, as a result of Israel's expansionist policy and the policy of the United States, the integrity of that country is now more threatened than ever before. Do you see any possibility of settling the Near Eastern crisis in the immediate future?

M.S. Gorbachev: I view the problem of Lebanon in the context of the situation in the Near East. I am convinced that we have approached the stage where an international settlement of the Near Eastern situation is possible and realistic. Representatives of most states in the world, including various regions—both the East and the West, and the developing countries—are also inclining toward this. There are difficulties and there are peculiarities in Israel's position that cannot be ignored and that are now the main obstacle. But since we are dealing with untying this knot—taking account of the interests of all the states of the region, both the Arabs and Israel, and, of course, the people of Palestine—and with solving the question of the return of lands, where preconditions have been created in the sense that there is already experience in solving other regional conflicts, I think we are on the eve, the threshold of solving this chronic, serious conflict. But the Soviet Union will already do everything within the framework of the present situation to alleviate the fate of the Lebanese people and will make use of the opportunities.

Question: I have... (supplying indistinct passage; deleting editorial notation; deleting paragraphs five, six, seven, and eight of column one and deleting paragraph one of column two)

Comparison of News Conference

LD0604052289

Moscow Television in Russian at 1616 GMT on 5 April broadcasts a 30-minute recording of the news conference held in Havana on 5 April by Mikhail Gorbachev, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet and CPSU general secretary, and Fidel Castro, president of the Republic of Cuba. The television broadcast has been compared with the Moscow TASS International Service in Russian report published in the 5 April Soviet Union DAILY REPORT on pages 50-54 under the subhead "Gorbachev, Castro Hold News Conference," and corrected in today's DAILY REPORT, revealing the following variations:

In the television version all journalist's questions are paraphrased by an unidentified announcer, superimposed in Russian over the speakers voices. Comments by Fidel Castro are also paraphrased by the same announcer, with Castro's voice in Spanish heard in the background.

page 51, column one, paragraph two, last sentence of television version reads: ...past few days.

[Unidentified announcer] The first question is about Cuba's role in the nonaligned movement. Taking into account that the Republic of Cuba is not only a socialist country but also a developing country, the correspondent asks, how would you describe its role in the nonaligned movement?

[Gorbachev] I think the... (rephrasing question)

paragraph five, last sentence of television version reads: ...is very high.

[Announcer] A question about Soviet-Nicaraguan relations and about the possibility of holding a Soviet-Nicaraguan summit meeting.

[Gorbachev] We have active... (rephrasing question)

column two, paragraph two, sentence one of the television version reads: ...the near future. This will be an independent meeting. And Nicaragua deserves that a meeting with the leadership of Nicaragua should not be one in passing, or that they should be invited somewhere and almost dictated to. This is a state... (supplying additional sentences)

paragraph two, last sentence of the television version reads: ...will be more.

[Announcer] A Peruvian journalist asked about Soviet-Cuban relations, recalling the fabrications of the western press that Cuba allegedly is a puppet of the Soviet Union.

[Gorbachev] I would like... (deleting material, rephrasing question)

page 52, column two, paragraph two, last sentence of television version reads: ...very serious talks.

[Announcer] Fidel Castro made a rejoinder. He noted that Comrade Gorbachev's speech in the National Assembly of Cuban People's Power was extremely interesting. Comrade Gorbachev, Fidel Castro said, came to our country not in order to instruct anybody about how to shape their foreign policy or to tell them what to do or not to do. That, Fidel Castro said, is the remarkable thing about Comrade Gorbachev.

A correspondent of Cuban television asked: At the end of your speech you mentioned the need to call a south-north-west-east conference on economic interrelations and foreign debt. When would it be advisable to hold such a conference?

[Gorbachev] I believe that... (rephrasing)

paragraph five, last sentence reads: ...of our civilization.

[Announcer] A question from a Peruvian journalist: Fidel Castro has reiterated his demand that foreign debts should be cancelled. Is the Soviet Union ready to cancel all of Cuba's debts?

[Gorbachev] I have spoken... (rephrasing)

page 53, column one, paragraph two, last sentence of television version reads: ...the United Nations.

[Castro in Spanish with superimposed Russian translation] Let me say something more on this score. I would like to add (?the following). We are in favor of abolishing our debt to the Soviet Union. We have been wanting to abolish this debt for 30 years now. But during these 3 decades we have been continuing to receive credits from the USSR. For the time being, debates are taking place on problems of the foreign debt.

We have never had any problems whatsoever with the Soviet Union in the sphere of financing. It can be said that from the first years of the revolution our debts have been automatically postponed during talks to the next term. And we continue to receive credits, the credits being interest-free. And the existance of the debt has never hindered the development of our relations. We received the very first credits from the USSR for the purpose of our development. I would like to know what states of Latin America have such relations with their Western creditors [words indistinct].

[Announcer] A Mexican journalist asked: When can new visits by Comrade Gorbachev to Latin America be expected?

[Gorbachev] I believe that I am in Latin America now. And therefore my next visit will be, to what country in Latin America, I find difficult to say now. But the fact that we have regular exchanges with virtually all the states of Latin America—especially with the large states—this has become a fact. And we very highly rate the political dialogue and expanding cooperation which has been taking place in the past few years between the Soviet Union and the Latin American continent. We are in sympathy with the immense, profound, transforming processes which are getting under way on this continent.

[Announcer] Question by a Cuban woman journalist: How is restoration work proceeding after the earthquake in Armenia?

[Gorbachev] You know the scale... (adding material and rephrasing)

paragraph two in the television version reads: ...is being done.

[Announcer] There is also a question about the situation in Lebanon and about the Soviet proposals aimed at normalizing the situation in the Near East.

[Gorbachev] I view the... (rephrasing)

column two, paragraph two, first sentence of television version reads: [Announcer] The last question was asked by Radio Pacifica. Since your country proposed a program for nuclear disarmament, he said the quantity of armaments in the United States has not dropped, expenditures for military needs have increased. It seems to me, the American said, that the United States does not agree with the policy of disarmament. Doesn't this mean that Soviet foreign policy (?is built on) illusions, idealism, and gullibility?

[Gorbachev] Among other things... (rephrasing)

Castro, Others See Off Gorbachev

LD0504140589 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1338 GMT 5 Apr 89

[Text] Havana, 5 April. (TASS Special correspondent)—M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, who had been staying here on an official, friendly visit, left Havana today for London.

At the aircraft steps in the Jose Marti International Airport, the Soviet leader and his wife were seen off by Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee and chairman of the State Council and of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba; Army General Raul Castro, second secretary of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee, first deputy chairman of the State Council and of the Council of Ministers of the Republic, and Minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces; and Vilma Espin member of the Politburo of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee and chairman of the Federation of Cuban Women.

The folowing also left together with M.S. Gorbachev: E.A. Shevardnadze, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Minister of foreign affairs; A.N. Yakovlev, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; and V.M. Kamentsev, USSR deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers.

Further on Gorbachev Sendoff

FL0504143089 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1402 GMT 5 Apr 89

[Excerpt] Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev ended this morning his official and friendly visit to our country with a strong and expressive embrace to Fidel and Raul which showed the links of solidarity that make the Soviet Union and Cuba brothers.

Before departing with his wife Raisa Gorbachev and the high-ranking delegation accompanying him, the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, together with Fidel, reviewed the honor guard composed of the three armed forces commanded by Colonel Guerrero Ramos.

Gorbachev then was bid farewell by leaders of the national party and government, members of the diplomatic corps, and representatives of the mass organizations.

As during his arrival, the Soviet leader received during the route from the protocol residence to the air terminal expressions of solidarity from thousands of Havana residents. [passage omitted]

Raisa Gorbacheva Tours Havana

LD0504023889 Moscow TASS in English 0226 GMT 5 Apr 89

[Text] Havana April 5 TASS—By a TASS special correspondent:

The years that have passed since the victory of the Cuban revolution have transformed the face of the country and the life of its people.

The most striking impression of Cuba today is its convincing advancement in the social sphere.

Familiarising herself with the development of child-care institutions, the Soviet leader's wife Raisa Gorbachev on Tuesday [4 April] visited a kindergarten in downtown Havana.

This is one of more than a hundred child-care centres built here in the past two years. Kindergarten teachers look after 210 kids aged between 1.5 months and five years. One physician and two medical nurses take care of their health.

The staff described their work and shared plans for the future.

Raisa Gorbachev wished the children good health and happiness.

She toured Ernest Hemingway's house-museum in the Cuban capital's suburb of San-Francisco-de Paula. Entering notes in the visitors book, Raisa Gorbachev highly assessed the writer's work, integrity of his character and invariable faithfulness to his convictions, and his genuine humanism.

Narrow cobbled streets, small shadowy parks, refined palaces that belonged to Creole nobles and majestic churches bearing the marks of centuries past make up the old town.

It is one of the most beautiful and historically valuable parts of the Cuban capital. In 1982, UNESCO designated the old town as a property of mankind.

Intensive restoration work is currently under way in old Havana, but that does not prevent thousands of tourists from many countries feeling what the town was like in the ancient times.

Raisa Gorbachev visited the National Fine Arts Museum in this part of the city.

The country's biggest cultural centre houses one of Latin America's richest collections of artifacts from ancient Egypt, Greece and Rome and masterpieces of famous Spanish artists.

The museum boasts canvases by renowned Italian, French and British masters of the 18th-19th centuries.

Raisa Gorbachev evinced great interest in works of the Cuban national school of painting that discover the world of nature and represent the diversity of creative pursuits of Cuban artists.

She also toured the Museum of the City of Havana.

Meeting with residents of the city, Raisa Gorbachev expressed gratitude for the cordial welcome and the manifestation of feelings of friendship.

Raisa Gorbachev was accompanied on the tour by Vilma Espin, president of the Cuban Women's Federation.

Comparison of Shevardnadze, Kamentsev Cuba Talks

PM0604085989

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 5 April 1989 carries in its Second Edition on page 4 a TASS report on the Shevardnadze, Kamentsev, and Yakovlev 3 April Havana talks with Cuban leaders. Comparison of the PRAVDA item, entitled "Exchange of Opinions," with the translation of the Moscow Domestic Russian version published in the 4 April Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page 31, column two, reveals the following variations:

first paragraph, last sentence, PRAVDA reads: ...situation took place, including on problems of disarmament and the Soviet-U.S. dialogue, the situation in and around Afghanistan, and the development of the process of a settlement in Central America.

On the same... (adding passage);

paragraph two, sentence two, PRAVDA reads: ...problems of development. The need for all-around and profound interpretation of the role of spiritual exchanges in strengthening mutual understanding among the peoples was noted. A.N. Yakovlev spoke in detail about the activity of the CPSU Central Committee Commission on Questions of International Policy.

The conversations, which... (adding passage).

Cuban Reportage on Gorbachev Visit

For Cuban reportage on Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to Cuba, see the Cuba section of the 3 April Latin America DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Castro's Achievements, Cuba-USSR Ties Viewed

PM0604084189 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 31 Mar 89 Second Edition p 5

[Aleksandr Kapto article: "Comrade Fidel: Features From the Portrait of a Man and a Revolution"]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] The Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] has more than 500,000 party members today. Virtually half of them work directly in production and the services sphere. This is a tremendous force. Fidel Castro spoke about it proudly at the 3d Communist Party Congress when recalling the times of the landing from the "Granma," when a mere handful of fighters rose up in revolutionary struggle: "...That was only the embryo of the party." But today, he continued, "we have a party which has many members, which is militant, experienced, has a high educational standard, great political preparation, political culture, and high revolutionary consciousness, which knows what it wants and which in practice is mastering the art of achieving those goals."

The times have set new tasks for Cuba's Communists and for all the party. They are represented in concentrated form in the PCC program, adopted at the 3d congress on the 30th anniversary of the landing from the "Granma." "We will constantly maintain that the services, revolutionary qualities, simplicity, modesty, and link with the masses, from whom the party is inseparable, are the main criteria governing the very meaning of its existence," the program says. "Never above the masses but always with the masses, always at the heart of the people!"

These expressive words contain the collective will of the party and the moral ideal of thousands of fighters, for whom Fidel Castro is the example.

Honor and Dignity

Fidel's devotion to the cause of the revolution, his principled nature and humanism, high sense of public duty, internationalism, selflessness, collectivism, and profound sincerity are widely known.

"The revolutionary's weapon is truth!" F. Castro affirms. "The revolutionary's weapon is the just cause! The revolutionary's weapon is the idea! The revolutionary's weapon is the thought! The revolutionary's weapon is culture! The weapon of the modern revolutionary is the correct interpretation of the scientific laws which determine the development of human society!

"We do not and will never lie! In the ideological struggle we are not afraid to cross swords with any opponent. The truth will ultimately always triumph."

This brilliant personality wins the hearts of experienced politicians and ordinary people, prominent scientists and writers alike. On numerous occasions I have heard the interest with which he questions interlocutors and seen how contact with him can be an enriching experience even for people working in highly specialized fields. For example, our biologists would hardly expect to learn something new in their field from a conversation with the first secretary of the PCC Central Committee but they do—and quite a lot at that.

During a conversation with Comrade Castro once I recalled how in our country people collect sap from birch trees. You should have seen how his eyes lit up when he first heard about what to Cuba was such an exotic industry and how he absorbed the smallest details.

Everyone who has met with Fidel invariably notices his modesty—just think of that idea of Marti's which caught his fancy. One of the first draft laws adopted after the victory of the revolution banned the erection of monuments to particular party or state figures during their lifetime and also the practice of naming streets, cities, and enterprises after living people. On numerous occasions in recent years Fidel has resolutely snubbed those people who like to make a big fuss about him, to recommend him for awards, and to single him out. From our many meetings I can imagine that F. Castro does not like these lines dedicated to him personally, but without these details this picture of him would not be complete, a picture of a revolutionary to whom the cult of the personality is foreign in any form.

I cannot help recalling in this connection Fidel Castro's 60th birthday. To avoid the eulogies and ceremonies he simply left Havana. Then he telephoned from somewhere along the road and said that he would visit the embassy. I conveyed to him the congratulations of M.S. Gorbachev and the Soviet leaders—Comrade Castro was very moved. As he left he said that he was going to call on his son Fidelito and was then going to a wedding—he had been invited by the couple themselves: The boy is from Havana, the girl is from Nicaragua and found refuge in Cuba after the death of her parents.

Fidel Castro calls the Soviet Union and the CPSU Cuba's closest friend and loyal political ally. History has repeatedly confirmed this view. Just recall the repeal of the sugar quota and the threat of hunger, the economic blockade, the Caribbean crisis. "It was our good fortune that the Soviet Union was there," Fidel noted when talking on this theme with journalists from NEWSWEEK. He went on: "However, we are not going to turn into the enemies of the Soviet Union or sacrifice our fine relations with that country just to show that we are not Soviet puppets."

It may be added that the whole Cuban people share those views. I shall cite just one characteristic example: All of 300,000 Cuban construction workers volunteered to go to Armenia to take part in the rebuilding of the cities and villages destroyed by the earthquake there. Many thousands of people donated blood. Comrade Fidel was first among them.

Carlos Rafael Rodriguez once noted in a conversation that during the different periods in the sixties through the eighties relations between Soviet leaders and F. Castro were always good. At present, he noted, relations are at their highest point. Contacts between the leaders of the two countries are relations between equal state and party leaders and are built on real mutual respect, comradeliness, and mutual consideration of each side's opinion. This, in C.R. Rodriguez's view, is the most important guarantee of the further strengthening of mutual relations between our countries.

Ties between our countries are developing dynamically in literally all spheres. The Soviet share of Cuba's foreign trade turnover is around 70 percent. The Soviet Union and other CEMA members are giving Cuba technical assistance in the development of the economy, particularly its base sectors. A long-term program for the development of economic, scientific, and technical cooperation between our countries through the year 2000 is being implemented and cultural ties are becoming closer and more productive.

From the many cultural events in which F. Castro is involved I will mention the now-traditional "New Latin American Cinema" festival. The festival's foundation is directed by the well-known Colombian, Nobel Prize-winning writer Gabriel Garcia Marquez. I have taken part in meetings and conversations between these remarkable people and I have seen how interested they are in each other, one a talented writer, the other a talented politician.

This year the country marked the 30th anniversary of its revolution. Cuba's people are justifiably proud of the path they have traveled. One could cite quite a few impressive figures characterizing the republic's achievements, but I think that it is more important to talk about something else—the sense of their own dignity which the people have acquired. Fidel Castro talks about this with understandable pride:

"For the first time, Cubans are masters of their country. No one and nothing threatens them, there is neither racial discrimination nor discrimination against women. One's position in society is not determined by one's level of income. There is no need to beg to receive a course of hospital treatment or a job now, as there used to be. Beginning with the level of dignity, which makes us equal with everyone, and ending with the socioeconomic transformations— all this characterizes our revolution."

The PCC and the Republic of Cuba have big plans. Both in the country's socioeconomic development and in the improvement of social relations and the creation of a new type of human society. Like us, our Cuban comrades are seeking ways to increase social production efficiency and strengthen socialist production relations. As restructuring is popular in the USSR, so is "rectification" in Cuba—the process of correcting mistakes and combating negative trends. The main point of this process is to strengthen socialism's gains.

This is what restructuring is doing in our country, as is the new stage of the revolution in Cuba, the proud Island of Freedom.

Cuba National Assembly Leader Cited on Gorbachev

PM0604132389 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
6 Apr 89 Morning Edition p 5

[Dispatch by special correspondents B. Vasilyev and A. Kamorin: "Havana's Enthusiasm and Cordiality"]

[Text] Tuesday was the most eventful day of M.S. Gorbachev's stay on Cuban soil. The Soviet leader continued his familiarization with hospitable Havana. The residents of the capital's Arroyo Naranjo district, where M.S. Gorbachev was familiarized with the work experience of construction microbrigades, greeted the Soviet guest with enthusiasm and cordiality.

We asked Josefina Bocur Diaz, leader of a microbrigade in a district of this region, to share her impressions of the meeting.

"We had been impatiently awaiting this visit," J. Bocur Diaz said. "In recent weeks the residents of Arroyo Naranjo have talked of nothing else. Comrade Gorbachev is a sociable man, and the brief time allocated under the program was not, of course, enough for us to talk about everything we wanted to. We are proud that the leader of a great country took an interest in our work and in our efforts to transform Arroyo Naranjo. I hope that M.S. Gorbachev felt at home here, among his own kind of people."

The Soviet-Cuban talks finished officially the same day, although in this instance "officially" has a more than conventional ring to it. M.S. Gorbachev himself said during a conversation with journalists that his talks with Fidel Castro continued practically nonstop and productive use was made of every minute of the visit. Two events were undoubtedly the culmination of Tuesday's strenuous program: the signing of the Soviet-Cuban Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation and M.S. Gorbachev's speech to deputies of the republic's National Assembly of People's Power.

The treaty signed in Havana's Palace of Congresses by M.S. Gorbachev and Fidel Castro has not only enshrined in juridical form the longstanding and multifaceted ties between our countries but also absorbed the areas of further cooperation which the USSR and Cuba consider most important.

Literally a few minutes after being signed the treaty was submitted for consideration to a ceremonial extraordinary session of the National Assembly of People's Power convened to mark M.S. Gorbachev's coming to Cuba. A formal vote did not have to be taken: Standing, the delegates unanimously ratified the Soviet-Cuban treaty with a prolonged ovation.

Before the start of the session your correspondents asked Comrade Severo Aguirre del Cristo, acting president of the National Assembly of People's Power, to share his impressions of this very important event and to describe the feelings and thoughts with which the deputies had come to Havana.

"This visit is of great significance for us," S. Aguirre del Cristo replied. "I would assess the deputies' mood as superb. We all believe that M.S. Gorbachev's speech is a high honor for the Assembly. It will undoubtedly have a great impact, considering that this is the first visit to Cuba, to Latin America by such an authoritative figure.

"We are following attentively the USSR's specific actions against the arms race and the unusually bold and important steps which your country is taking in this sphere. We are deeply sympathetic to Comrade Gorbachev's proposals on the need to direct the funds released in the course of reducing arms to the needs of development—above all, the development of 'Third World' countries. Both Cuba and the USSR are convinced that there cannot be peace without development, development without peace.

"Much is being said in the West to the effect that this visit could be used to pressure Cuba, to push it into implementing reforms like the Soviet ones....

"Such statements, which really are only encountered in the Western press, do not trouble us. Interference in the affairs of others is precisely their way of operating. It is well-known that Comrade Gorbachev himself lays down as a fundamental principle the right of every country to solve its problems in its own way, conforming to its own views and also to the methods which every people considers correct."

The Soviet Union has always supported Cuba. Previously there was no treaty of friendship and cooperation between us, but no one could cast doubt on the friendship and cooperation of our peoples. The treaty which has just been signed is the confirmation of close Soviet-Cuban ties. It has been concluded for 25 years but does not limit the term of our friendship and cooperation.

Nicaragua's Borge Cited on Gorbachev Visit

LD0504132189 Moscow TASS in English 1234 GMT 5 Apr 89

[Text] Quito April 5 TASS—By TASS correspondent Mikhail Stepanov:

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to Cuba is of historic significance to all of Latin America, Tomas Borge, Nicaraguan minister of the interior, said in a TASS interview.

He is attending a session of the permanent conference of the political parties of Latin America. The session opened in the Ecuadorean capital on Wednesday.

Borge's opinion is that Gorbachev's visit may serve as the beginning of a new stage in relations between the Soviet Union and Latin American countries. He singled out relations existing between the Soviet Union and Nicaragua, pointing out that they are of steady and friendly nature.

The minister emphasized that the Soviet Union's stand on issues concerning the Central American peace process would undoubtedly promote the establishment of peace in the region and ensure the security of the people in the countries of the region.

USSR's Nicaragua Envoy Views Soviet Elections

PA0404204389 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 3 Apr 89

[Interview with Soviet Ambassador to Nicaragua Valeriy Dmitriyevich Nikolayenko by unidentified reporter in Managua; date not given—live or recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] What do these elections mean? What does a 20-percent loss represent?

[Nikolayenko] It is not a loss but a gain for democracy and restructuring, because these elections prove that restructuring and democratization are in progress, that the people have a voice, that they can elect the people who respond to their needs, who present the platforms and programs most appropriate for the current stage of our national development.

[Reporter] Has the Communist Party lost any of its influence?

[Nikolayenko] No. It is precisely this party that initiated restructuring and democratization. Of course, not all the party cadres, especially in the provinces and regions, respond to the country's new needs. They have not been able to reorganize their own work.

[Reporter] Mr Ambassador, were the elections a means of purging the party? (?You said the results would not be challenged.)

[Nikolayenko] It is not a purge, as in the early years; it is the natural selection by the people of individuals who respond to their needs.

[Reporter] What will happen to the 20 percent rejected by the people?

[Nikolayenko] This is a sign, of course, that those people did not meet the current standards. Each specific case will be examined. A loss in a democratic election is not a serious problem; it is not a crime or a deficiency in itself, because anyone can lose an election. That is what elections are for. I believe, therefore, that each comrade's party organization should examine his or her case on an individual basis. It is not necessary to expel them from the party, as would be the case in the purge you refer to.

[Reporter] Are the Soviet election results proof that the masses have rejected the Communist Party's old guard and support restructuring?

[Nikolayenko] The people voted for the candidates who support restructuring, which indicates their overwhelming support for restructuring; those who lost the elections [words indistinct] or through the election process did not actively support restructuring or were viewed by the people as conservative representatives who may, perhaps, support restructuring—but only in word, not deed. The election results show that the overwhelming majority support restructuring, glasnost, and the new Soviet democratization.

Haiti Situation Viewed After 'Abortive Coup'

PM0604143389 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 4 Apr 89 Morning Edition p 4

[IZVESTIYA Press Service article: "Haiti: Abortive Coup"]

[Text] The Haitian Government headed by General Prosper Avril has announced that an attempted military coup in the country has failed and the authorities are in control of the situation despite the fact that one military unit is continuing to offer resistance, REUTER reports from Port-au-Prince.

According to the information minister, a group of rebel officers surrounded the presidential palace on Sunday and attempted to overthrow the Avril government. EFE reports that Avril himself was captured on the way to the airport, from where they intended to take him to the Dominican Republic, but he was rescued by his personal bodyguard.

Four of the plotters who led the putsch were arrested, but the elite army "Leopard" battalion is continuing to wage combat operations in four parts of Port-au-Prince, where its barrracks are located, UPI points out. The rebels are demanding the release of their commander, a certain Himmler Rebu, one of the four who was arrested. It is thought that he was mixed up in drug smuggling and that some other senior Haitian army officers were also involved.

Two weeks ago, REUTER notes, the Bush administration expressed satisfaction with the "progress made in Haiti in strengthening democracy," and announced that it would propose that Congress consider an aid program for the country—aid having been broken off in November 1987, when through the fault of the Army and the "Tontons Macoutes," the first general election in Haiti following the overthrow of dictator Duvalier resulted in a bloodbath.

In an effort to enlist U.S. support, the current Haitian ruler P. Avril last week arrested several colonels involved in the international drug trade. According to U.S. spokesmen, this may have been the cause of the antigovernment action.

Since February 1986, when ousted dictator Jean-Claude Duvalier left Haiti on a U.S. military transport aircraft, the poorest country in the Western hemisphere has been in a constant turmoil of plots and putsch. P. Avril himself came to power last September, replacing as president General A. Namphy, who, in turn, had overthrown civilian leader L. Manigat.

In accordance with the established tradition, the new president promised to put Haiti back on the path of democracy and ensure the protection of human rights in the country. But now, 7 months later, REUTER points out, Avril's government remains highly vulnerable because he has not succeeded in securing firm political backing in the country, establishing a schedule for holding new elections, or getting rid of former Duvalier minions among the army elite.

As L. Berns [name as transliterated], executive director of the American Council for Western Hemisphere Affairs, said, "The only thing that one can say is that Haiti is going to see a new political and economic upheaval without any prospect of acquiring democratic rule in the immediate future."

Ousted dictator J.C. Duvalier, now living in a luxury villa on the French Riviera, did not react at all to the new attempted putsch, a REUTER correspondent reports from Paris. Last year Haiti demanded that the French authorities expel "Baby Doc," who is accused of stealing $120 million from the state coffers. The French police carried out a search at the former Haitian "life president's" villa and found Paris jewelry store checks for $372,000 and $100,000. But Duvalier has denied the Haitian Government's charges. The agency reports that the restrictions on his sojourn in the south of France were recently lifted. And the Haitian authorities' efforts to retrieve the stolen money have been in vain....

Political & Social

Nine 'Political Prisoners' Reported Released

LD0504164889 London BBC World Service in English 1406 GMT 5 Apr 89

[Text] In addition to a list of 17 people to whom the Soviet Union says it is ready to grant exit visas, the authorities in Moscow have also given details to the British Government of 9 cases of political prisoners who they say have now been released. All the cases have been regularly raised by Britain in an effort to persuade the Soviet Union to improve its record on human rights. Our Foreign Affairs correspondent, Jack Thompson, says the list includes those jailed for religious activity and evasion of military service but leaves out the names of five men convicted of more serious crimes, such as espionage, currency speculation, anti-Soviet agitation and smuggling.

[Thompson] Among those the Soviet authorities say they've released are two men who were detained in psychiatric hospitals for long periods. Vladimir Korfidov, for example, was arrested in 1979, while Valeriy Timokhin was held from as long ago as 1976. There are no details of Korfidov's alleged offenses, but Timokhin was charged with distributing leaflets. Also among the nine now said to have been released are two Muslims from Uzbekistan, both imprisoned for religious activity. Another man named as A. Bakhirov and also from Uzbekistan was jailed for religious activity in 1986 when the policies of glasnost and perestroyka had already been initiated by Mr Gorbachev. The British Government describes the reported release of these nine as a very positive response by the Soviet Union to its request for information on the cases, but a Foreign Office spokesman said Britian needed to go on paying attention to such cases and to make sure that the information it had received from Moscow on both refuseniks and political prisoners was in fact correct. There are still at least 35 cases involving refuseniks and five of political prisoners on which apparently no progress has been made.

Speculation on Gorbachev's 'Removal' Discussed

LD0404182589 Kiev in English to North America 2330 GMT 1 Apr 89

[From the "Dialogue" program]

[Text] (Pete Wolquist), from California, United States, writes to us: Everyone knows what happened to Khrushchev in the early 1960's. My question is: How much longer before the boys in the Kremlin do to Gorbachev what they did to Khruschev?

Dmitriy Markov replies: You know, this is a very interesting question. First of all, because (Pete) is concerned with Mikhail Gorbachev's tenure of office. But he has no doubt that Mr Gorbachev will be removed. Nonetheless, Mikhail Gorbachev's term of office is well known while his removal is more than problematic. According to the law in our country, Mikhail Gorbachev can hold the post of the country's president for 9 more years as he can only be in office for 2 5-year periods.

As to the removal of Mikhail Gorbachev, well, I don't believe that it is possible. For example, at the recent elections to the USSR Supreme Soviet 12 members of the CPSU Central Committee voted down Mikhail Gorbachev. So, as you see, there is a certain opposition to Gorbachev. But the more important thing is that the new political atmosphere, the new democratic basis of the party, the new laws of the society, make any repeat of the situation like it was with Khrushchev 25 years ago, makes it absolutely impossible. And in the present day conditions of democratic elections, the appointment and removal of such leaders as Mikhail Gorbachev are possible only by normal parliamentary procedures.

CPSU Journal Publishes Khrushchev Speech

PM0604094589 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Apr 89 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Latest Issue of IZVESTIYA TSK KPSS"]

[Text] The third issue of the journal IZVESTIYA TSK KPSS has been published and is being distributed to subscribers.

The issue opens with information on the work of the party's Central Committee in February 1989, whose main areas were determined by active election campaigning for the elections of USSR people's deputies, by preparations for the CPSU Central Committee plenum on questions of agrarian policy, by the intensive search for effective ways to resolve urgent socioeconomic problems, and by the implementation of large-scale foreign policy actions.

The issue carries a number of new CPSU Central Committee Politburo decisions: on the results of the meeting at the CPSU Central Committee with scientific and cultural figures, on the progress in fulfilling previously adopted resolutions on the preferential development of machine building, on the state of affairs in regions subjected to radioactive pollution as a result of the accident at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Station, and others.

The materials in the section "Restructuring Party Life" sum up the reports and elections in the country's party organizations, shed light on questions of the work of the newly elected control and auditing commissions, and contain a resolution on the allocation of funds from the CPSU budget for the needs of primary party organizations.

The section "From Documents Adopted Since April 1985" is represented by two materials—a working record of M.S. Gorbachev's conversation with first secretaries of certain oblast party committees, which took place 14

November 1985, and also the CPSU Central Committee Politburo resolution on questions of improving the structure of imports and enhancing the efficiency of the use of currency funds to accelerate scientific and technical progress.

The journal carries information on the first sessions of the CPSU Central Committee Ideological Commission and the CPSU Central Committee Commission on Questions of Party Building and Cadre Policy.

A report on the work of the Party Control Committee under the CPSU Central Committee during January-February 1989 speaks of the committee's regular sessions, which examined questions of monitoring the fulfillment of party decisions, as well as Communists' appeals.

From the materials under the rubric "Information and Chronicle" the reader will learn of the work of the CPSU Central Committee inquiries and reception bureau in 1988, and of progress in fulfilling previously adopted resolutions on restructuring secondary and higher schools and political and economic studies, and a number of others. The section also contains information on the election and confirmation of party workers in February 1989.

The CPSU's international ties are described in a chronicle of the talks, meetings, and conversations held during January-February 1989.

The issue carries reviews of workers' letters received at the CPSU Central Committee, as well as letters on questions of price reform and price formation. Letters examined on the instructions of CPSU Central Committee secretaries discuss the conflict situation that arose over the "Plastik" cooperative (Naro-Fominsk city, Moscow Oblast).

There are diverse materials in the journal's archive section. In the chronicle of the activity of the party's Central Committee during March-May 1918 the minutes of seven sessions of the Russian Communist Party (Bolsheviks) [RKP(B)] Central Committee are published for the first time. The minutes of the first session of the RKP(B) Central Committee Politburo, held 16 April 1919, are reproduced for the 70th anniversary of the party's Central Committee Politburo.

The journal carries the full text of the report "On the Personality Cult and Its Consequences" which N.S. Khrushchev, first secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, delivered at a closed session of the 20th party congress on 25 February 1956.

The reader can familiarize himself with G. Dimitrov's speech on the preparations for the Seventh Communist International Congress and with letters by N.K. Krupskaya and A.M. Gorkiy. A review of the second issue of IZVESTIYA TSK RKP(B) for 1919 concludes the archive section.

In connection with numerous questions about how to subscribe to the journal we report that all local post offices are accepting subscriptions to IZVESTIYA TSK KPSS for the remaining months of 1989 and for 1990 without any restrictions.

Leningrad Party Analyzes Election Defeats

PM0604092189 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 6 Apr 89 Second Edition p 2

[Own correspondent A. Molokov report: "Analysis of an Acute Situation. From the Joint Plenum of the Leningrad Oblast and City Party Committees"]

[Text] Leningrad—The results of the 26 March vote could not have failed to generate serious concern: Not a single one of the top Leningrad city and Oblast leaders gained the required amount of votes to be elected USSR people's deputy. The gap in the poll was also impressive: Only one in five voters voted for A.N. Gerasimov, first secretary of the Leningrad City CPSU Committee [gorkom], one in four for A.M. Fateyev, second secretary of the oblast party committee [obkom], and one in three for V.Ya. Khodyrev and N.I. Popov, chairmen of the Leningrad City Soviet Executive Committee and the Leningrad Oblast Soviet Executive Committee respectively. Yu.F. Solovyev, first secretary of the party obkom, who was the sole candidate in Nevskiy Territorial Okrug, gained 44.8 percent of votes.

Generally speaking, losses and defeats were expected. An analysis of the situation and a sociological poll conducted on the eve of the elections testified that Leningraders' attitude to "official candidates" was unstable and, as the saying goes, "fluid." It seemed that the necessary measures had been taken, mobile agitation centers were deployed, hundreds of agitators called at people's homes, and apparatus officials from party rayon committees [raykoms], the gorkom, and the obkom were directly involved in polemics with opponents from politicized and informal organizations and groups agitating "against..." And until literally the last moment people did not believe that victory would evade them. That is why the outcome was a surprise to the candidate deputies themselves, to the obkom apparatus, and even to many Leningraders.

Where did they go wrong? What could have been but was not done? What should have been but was not taken into account? It was only logical that these questions would be asked on the very next day. Party organizations and aktivs demanded an honest and objective answer.

Yu.F. Solovyev was interviewed by LENINGRADSKAYA PRAVDA 31 March and gave the initial assessments of the prevailing situation. "We must not pretend," he said, "that nothing has happened. Nor should we, however, overdramatize what happened. These elections were held in conditions of profound social dissatisfaction by a large proportion of the population. Each one of the leaders was the target of criticism from right and left alike. There was also the pressure applied by the burden of past mistakes, by responsibility for the present and even more so for the future: No matter how willing they all were, none of them could promise a land of milk and honey tomorrow. Furthermore, when organizing the election campaign, we somehow failed to take full account of society's psychological condition, we were unaware of the far-reaching processes occurring within it. We did not study public opinion, and the main point was that we failed to channel it in the right direction."

But the situation in the region remained tense. It was aggravated also by the fact that some party and soviet apparatus officials were in a state of confusion, others—the so-called political opponents—were loudly rejoicing in their celebration of victory, while yet others, the most aggressive among them, assembled in the Writers' Center 1 April, demanded the Leningrad leadership's resignation. It was in these conditions that the party aktiv assembled at an extraordinary plenum which was, for the first time in 30 years, a joint plenum of the Leningrad CPSU Obkom and Gorkom.

...Karl Marx Hall in the Smolnyy Institute was filled to capacity. Such a plenum attendance has probably not been recorded for a long time. People's special interest in the forthcoming discussion could be felt in their questions, rejoinders, and statements during conversations in the lobbies prior to the session's start. This time there was no traditional report, and there was something unusual about the proposal by Yu.F. Solovyev, who opened the plenum, that there should be no procedural rules and that each speaker be allowed to say whatever he liked, whatever was foremost in his mind, whatever worried and alarmed him. All this generated an atmosphere of frankness, honest and blunt assessments, and unbiased criticism of which we have dreamed since the onset of restructuring and which must meet the requirements of intraparty democracy.

The following question was raised for discussion: on certain consequences of the party organizations' work on organizing elections in conditions of restructuring. But in the course of the plenum's work, its participants naturally and logically arrived at a different formulation of the question: the Leningrad party organization's immediate tasks in deepening restructuring in the region stemming from the results of the 26 March elections. This was not simply a matter of different wording or different emphasis—it testified to the party aktiv's consolidation, to a transition from confusion to a restoration of militancy and purposeful action.

The participants in the joint plenum engaged in a serious and principled analysis not so much of the actual fact of the election at, with all the mistakes and miscalculations in the organization and conduct of the election campaign, as of the deep-rooted causes which produced it.

There were, of course, speakers who reduced the entire problem to mistakes and miscalculations in the organization of agitation work, to the ill intentions of the press in earnestly creating "a negative stereotype of the party apparatchik," to poor selection of people from the team of candidates, to the lack of reliable and comprehensive information, and so on. But this explanation alone was not at all acceptable to plenum participants. Yes, the elections were to all intents and purposes lost by the apparatus—the attempt to solve the election problem by purely apparatus methods had been discredited. It was, so to say, not so important what specific actions, forms, and methods were used by the party obkom, gorkom, and raykom apparatus. This is what was fundamentally important:

"We went into the election campaign," A.I. Melnikov, shipbuilding worker at the Leningrad "Admiralteyskoye" Association, stressed, "with old forms and methods of working. We were all waiting for something, be it orders or some kind of specially favorable conditions. We lagged behind in the initial stage when the nomination process was under way, and this was exploited by those who consider themselves to be the opposition. That is why even the natural nomination of real leaders at labor collectives and party organizations was seen as an alternative to those who had been informally nominated beforehand."

The election campaign was a profound examination above all for the party apparatus—which, unfortunately, failed it because it was unable to mobilize primary party organizations or work out correct and accurate campaign tactics. Lots of communists were indifferent about the election contests.

"We are trying to carry out many radical changes without changing the content of party organizations' activity," V.N. Vasilyev, party committee secretary at the "Nevskiy Zavod imeni V.I. Lenina" Association, stressed. "We talk about glasnost, yet we in Leningrad have not had a single discussion about the problems of intraparty work."

Yet it would simply be wrong to blame the apparatus for everything. One cannot fail to take account of the overall atmosphere in the country and the party on the eve of and during the election campaign. Yu.A. Petrosyan, director of the Oriental Studies Institute's Leningrad Department; A.M. Sidorenko, prorector of the Leningrad Higher Party School; S.B. Petrov, general director of the "Mayak" Sewn Goods Association: and V.A. Yefimov, first secretary of Leninskiy rayon party committee, spoke with alarm about the psychological attack conducted against the party. Here too, however strange it may seem, certain press organs joined with forces which are very far removed from Marxist-Leninist ideas. We underestimated the ideological prejudices and bourgeois illusions that have become widespread recently. Just as we underestimated people's discontent with increasing shortages, inflation, crime, and shortcomings in the organization of the cooperative movement. The lack of consistency in implementing the economic reform had an effect. All this overlaid an everyday awareness prepared by the constant whipping up of negative emotions.

If we further take into account the 1.5-billion [currency not specified] gap in Leningrad between economic and social infrastructures and the clear lag with regard to the implementation of a whole series of party and soviet decisions aimed at eliminating this gap, it becomes clear that the outcome of the elections was predetermined. This was the explanation of the situation given in the speech by A.N. Gerasimov, first secretary of Leningrad CPSU Gorkom, and it met with understanding from the plenum participants.

The speech most consonant with the change in the session participants' mood was that of I.D. Spasskiy, general designer and chief of the "Rubin" Design and Installation Bureau:

"I was not in favor of holding this plenum—at least not with this agenda. We should work out strategic avenues rather than waste our time on trivia. Perhaps if we'd worked harder in a few okrugs a few more deputies would have been elected—but is that the main thing, would that have reassured us? Probably not. Today our worries and concerns should be about the future. And if we do not show Leningraders our willingness and ability to resolve precisely the tasks currently being set by the people's lives, we will again reap a sad harvest." [Spasskiy ends]

"People want to live better today. The economic renewal process should at least proceed alongside political changes, and precede them in the sphere of improving people's prosperity. Only then will people believe us. Meanwhile they are spending years waiting for improvements and are losing their faith in restructuring," Z.I. Khromilina, radio assembly worker at the "Burevestnik" Scientific Production Association, said.

"The main cause of the defeat," V.P. Smirnov, radio adjuster at the Leningrad Optical and Mechanical Association, and member of the CPSU Obkom Bureau, stressed, "lies in dissatisfaction with the actions of Leningrad party obkom and gorkom and their bureaus. We don't need agitators to agitate for us, we need real action. Leningraders are dissatisfied with the pace and progress of restructuring in the city. They do not feel that the city leadership is defending the interests of the population—the working class and the intelligentsia. And if the prestige of the party and the Leningrad party organization as a whole remain high in spirit of everything, there is nonetheless a clear crisis of confidence. Leningraders' complaints apply to all of us to a greater or lesser extent, since it is we gathered here today who are the leaders of Leningrad Communists. Why are we only now thinking about what should be done to restore people's trust and how we should go about it?..."

Yes, one can only regret that this frank and honest conversation is only being held today.

And yet the plenum ended on an upbeat note. "Yes, the election results are disappointing," Yu.F. Solovyev, first secretary of the party obkom and candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, said in summing up the results of the conversation, "but we are capable of rectifying the situation. We will run in elections again, but only when we have restored the prestige of the Leningrad party organization and our party committees."

Solovyev Attends Leningrad Meeting

LD0404195489 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 4 Apr 89

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] The topic of the elections continues in a report received from a TASS correspondent in Leningrad.

A combined plenum of the Leningrad oblast and city committees of the CPSU was held today. Several leading party and local soviet leaders, including the first secretaries of the oblast and city committees of the CPSU, did not receive the required number of votes from the electorate and therefore remained unelected. The plenum participants had a hard-hitting and principled conversation about the ballot results. The work of the party organizations came in for an uncompromising assessment at the plenum, as did that of the cadres concerned with ideology and the mass media, which did not always attain the standards required by restructuring in the course of the run-up to the elections. The plenum described the outcome of the elections as a serious political lesson. It resolutely demanded of Communists that they should file away in the archives the former approaches and the old methods of working, and that they should be constantly concerned with preserving and bolstering the party's vanguard role in society.

Comrade Solovyev spoke at the plenum.

Electoral Commission Announcement on Election Results

LD0404133589 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 4 Apr 89

[Text] Announcement by the Central Electoral Commission on the results of the elections of people's deputies of the USSR:

There were 192,575,165 people included on the list of electors in the electoral constituencies. Some 172,840,130 people took part in the voting on 26 March.

On the basis of Article 57 of the Electoral Law the Central Electoral Commission has registered all the people's deputies of the USSR elected from the electoral constituencies and from public organizations.

In all, 1,958 people's deputies out of 2,250 were elected. There are 292 deputies still to be elected. Among those already elected there are 334 women, or 17.1 percent, and there are 1,624 men, or 82.9 percent.

Citizens of 60 nationalities living in our country have been elected to the supreme body of state power.

The election of people's deputies of the USSR was an important step in the implementation of the political reforms outlined at the 19th all-union party conference, and an important stage in the political and social life of the country, which is proceeding on the path of restructuring.

Academy of Sciences Nominates Sakharov for Deputy

LD0504112989 Moscow World Service in English 1100 GMT 5 Apr 89

[Excerpt] The Moscow press has published a list of candidates to the Congress of People's Deputies nominated by the Soviet Academy of Sciences. The list includes Andrey Sakharov, Roald Sagdeyev, Nikolay Shmelev, and other scientists actively supporting restructuring and renewal. [passage omitted]

Further Reports on Candidates' Election Campaigns

Vagris Visits Blind Group 21 Mar

PM0404131489 Riga SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA in Russian 23 Mar 89 p 1

[LATINFORM correspondent V. Steshenko report: "Helping People Whose Life Is Difficult"]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] On the outskirts of Riga, on the once picturesque shores of Lake Yugla, a settlement has grown up where people who have wholly or partially lost their sight live and work. On 21 March they had a visit from Ya.Ya. Vagris, candidate USSR Supreme Soviet people's deputy for Proletarskiy Territorial Electoral Okrug No 708, first secretary of the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee. He visited the Riga Training and Production Enterprise and Residential Home of the Latvian SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] Society for the Blind. It is hard to overstate the significance of this enterprise in its workers' lives. It gives them the opportunity not only to earn a supplement to their pension, but also to undergo labor rehabilitation and feel that they are necessary to society. [passage omitted]

Conversations sprang up in the most unlikely places. Workers surrounded the candidate deputy in the corridor, and a heated discussion of the political situation in Latvia broke out. Contradictory views were sometimes expressed on the draft law on languages and the activity of the People's Front and the International Front of the Working People of the Latvian Soviet Socialist Republic [Interfront], but everyone was unanimous in the opinion that the law should be just and that these problems cannot be resolved by strikes, which can only exacerbate the situation. There were also criticisms of the party Central Committee:

"Why does the Central Committee fail to show persistence in the fulfillment of its own decisions?"

Ya.Ya. Vagris agreed with the criticism, but when one participant in the conversation said that the Central Committee failed to give instructions in time, the candidate deputy objected:

"We should resolutely renounce the practice of working only on instructions from above. Yes, restructuring began on an initiative 'from above,' but without initiative 'from below' it cannot succeed."

One worker asked about the candidate deputy's attitude to the Latvian People's Independence Movement "not as first secretary, but as an individual." Yan Yanovich replied:

"The Latvian People's Independence Party calls for a return to the 1922 Constitution. I lived under that Constitution. And although the stores were full in those days, I, as the son of a landless farm laborer to whom almost everything was inaccessible, do not want to return to those days. It is better to build a new Latvia."

Ya.Ya. Vagris was asked many questions about difficulties in ethnic relations and the reasons for them:

"I think the reasons must be sought in the underlying processes taking place in the economy, in shortages, in distribution, which sometimes creates social injustice, and in deformations of socialism," Ya.Ya. Vagris said. "They did not spring up overnight. Restructuring is not to blame, as some people think. It is simply that restructuring exposed the contradictions. Today we, too, often see these solely from the standpoint of ethnic relations, and that is wrong."

A man in worker's coveralls came up to the candidate deputy:

V.G. Kiryunnikov: Comrade Vagris, we, a group of workers, discussed the candidacy and decided to vote for you....

Ya.Ya. Vagris: Thank you, but this is an individual matter, the elections will be secret....

B.G. Kiryunnikov: All the same, we are voting for Vagris. But remember, this is an advance. We believe you will fulfill the party's decisions. That is a vitally important matter for us voters.

Ya.Ya. Vagris: You can rely on me, but alone I can do nothing, and the bureau can do nothing, unless it has businesslike support in the localities.

V.G. Kiryunnikov: Fine, let us conclude the conversation. [passage omitted]

Vagris Visits 'Kommutator' Plant

PM0404131689 Riga SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA in Russian 24 Mar 89 p 1

[LATINFORM report: "The Workers' Support Is Strong"]

[Excerpts] The news that Ya.Ya. Vagris, first secretary of the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee, had arrived at the "Kommutator" Production Association sped through the enterprise's shops. And the collective's working people soon realized that this was no mere protocol visit when a high-ranking guest takes a hasty overview of the enterprise and devotes more attention to exchanging opinions with the leadership. The most meaningful conversations took place actually at the workplaces. [passage omitted]

It was entirely natural for the conversations to be devoted mainly to how to rectify matters in the republic more rapidly and make the renewal processes more constructive and creative. It was by no means an exchange of compliments. The workers rightly asked why the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee Bureau does not show proper persistence in fulfilling the decisions of the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee plenum, but tolerates violations of statutory party requirements on the part of certain Communists.

The guest asked an equally reasonable question: What has the association's party organization itself done to fulfill the plenum decisions? After all, even today the habit of waiting for instructions "from above" constantly makes itself felt here.

During the conversation it was rightly said that today it is particularly important firmly to rebuff extremist slogans and actions, from whatever direction they may come. People are tired of rallies and torrents of resolutions of all kinds. The enterprise's veterans stressed that the success of restructuring requires not a noisy struggle, but prosaic work. And the two fronts—people's and international—should first and foremost call on people to improve their work.

There were many complaints about shortcomings in the draft Law on Languages. In his replies Ya.Ya. Vagris stressed that it is necessary not merely to criticize the draft, but to submit concrete proposals for improving it and ensure that it does not infringe citizens' legitimate rights. It was noted that the republic Council of Ministers has been instructed to formulate a state program for improving Latvian language teaching. This will be examined at a Latvian SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviet session along with the draft Law on Languages.

In the course of the conversations the "Kommutator" workers submitted many instructions to their candidate USSR people's deputy and assured him that on election day, 26 March, they will vote for Ya.Ya. Vagris, first secretary of the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee, because they see the Communist Party as the only force capable of advancing restructuring not in words, but in deeds.

* Irkutsk Candidate on Economy

18200286 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 24 Mar 89 p 1

[Interview with G. I. Filshin, candidate for USSR people's deputy, by N. Fokina; date, place of interview not given; first paragraph is an introduction]

[Text] Gennadiy Innokentyevich Filshin, an Irkutsk scientist, chief of the division of regional economics and distribution of productive forces of the Eastern Siberian Institute of Economics and Organization of Industrial Production of the Siberian Branch of the USSR Academy of Sciences, has registered as a candidate for USSR people's deputy for the 171th electoral district of Irkutsk. On the eve of the elections they finished drawing up a program for socioeconomic development and acceleration of scientific and technical progress called "Intensifikatsiya-95." Its authors are G. I. Filshin and his colleagues who are economists in Eastern Siberia. What is the main idea of the scientists' proposals? Our correspondent discusses this with G. I. Filshin.

[Filshin] I will express the essence of the program quite simply: The country will receive an immense return from Siberia when we not only interest people in the region economically, but also arm them technically. More than 30 branch institutes and branches and dozens of other scientific, research, and design organizations participated in its development. In the first stage we evaluated the technical level of the area. And here we were quite disappointed. In the processing industry the proportion of equipment that, according to the expert evaluation, meets the world level was less than 6 percent. In the Lenzoloto production association, for example, there are several dredges that have been in operation for more than a half century! Equipment in the Usolye Khimprom association has been in operation for more than 30 years. The hydrolysis plants are "equipped" in approximately the same way. And it is characteristic that the proportion of worn-out equipment in Siberia is increasing—it has doubled during the past 5 years.

And yet it has long been recognized that even conventional technological systems that are not outdated are not suitable for Siberia. In terms of productivity, reliability, and durability they should correspond to the scale and specific features of the unique natural resources. And, of course, there should be comfortable conditions for operation.

But, alas, for many years Siberia has been assimilating the same machines as the other regions have. For instance, the experimental models of the super-powerful dump trucks for assimilation particularly at the Neryungrinskiy coking coal deposit were not created at the Belorussian Automobile Factory until the middle of the 1980's, at least 10 years behind schedule. As a result, it was necessary to purchase this equipment abroad. Capacities of the Krasnoyarsk heavy excavator plant were introduced with a similar delay.... An extremely strange practice has developed in recent years, not only from the standpoint of the regional strategy but also from the standpoint of simple common sense. This involves using in Siberia obsolete and worn-out equipment that has been removed from enterprises in the European part of the country. Last year at enterprises of local industry, the fuel industry, and the construction materials industry located in Irkutsk Oblast, for example, disassembled equipment comprised about one-fourth of the overall amount. What kind of effectiveness can there be in the work!... The growth rates of the proportion of the national income provided by Siberia are decreasing. More and more resources are being expended and the return for the invested ruble is decreasing. We have a cost-oriented economy on our hands.

[Fokina] As I understand it, when working on the program you studied a substantial portfolio of scientific-technical and planning-design developments. There are quite a few of them. Just the list of names filled two thick volumes....

[Filshin] But we did not see a single plan that envisioned an integrated technological system that reflects not improvement of individual elements but a radical updating of the entire production process, bringing it up to the world level! In only three of them was an attempt made to compare the results that were achieved with the best models, even with respect to a limited range of indicators. And yet the future of our economy lies with these scientific and technical projects. And thus the well-being of the people as well. Unfortunately, this problem is certainly not of a regional nature. What has happened, have we run short on talent? Or has creative thought dried up? No, of course not. During the last 5-Year Plan alone more than 400,000 inventions were registered in our country, which is twice as many as in the most "patent-filled" powers—Japan and the United States. And in Irkutsk Oblast during this time more than 20,000 inventions and efficiency proposals were accepted. But a large proportion of them failed to make their way into the plans for new technical equipment.

[Fokina] Perhaps this is evidence of the lack of interest on the part of enterprises in accelerating scientific and technical progress? They do not want to take a risk or withstand temporary difficulties and possible failures that are inevitable during reconstruction....

[Filshin] I agree. But why are they not interested? Do the Siberians not understand that their standard of living depends directly on the effectiveness of the assimilation of the region's natural resources? They understand. But in recent years people's interest in assimilating the resources of Eastern Siberia has abated significantly. The fact is that their native region belongs to them conventionally, geographically, but the ones actually in charge here are the departments, and technologically their enterprises are in charge. So a paradoxical situation has developed: A territory that is rich in its own natural resources has ended up in the position of a poor woman kept by the powerful branches.

The neglect of the social sphere in Siberia has become the new reality.

We are not speaking of this so that the readers will wish the Siberians well. I wish to lead up to another idea: Are we not being too careless when, rearranging the economy of the country as a whole, as before we underestimate and do not understand the role and possibilities of Siberia?

I frequently say that the depth and character of the changes depend primarily on us ourselves. It is very important for each person to know the reasons for failures and ways of overcoming them. Therefore I am trying to speak with people honestly. Even though the truth is unpleasant. When working on the program "Intensifikatsiya-95" we saw that 2 of 60 indicators of the social sphere in Irkutsk Oblast meet the overall Russian level. But which ones! The production of alcoholic beverages and beds in hospitals—which resulted from putting patients in the corridors. Everything else was hopelessly behind. A person reacts to this kind of situation with passivity. Why should he work as hard as he can and earn money when there is nothing to spend it on?...

[Fokina] The enterprises have now changed over to economic accountability and self-financing. We are speaking of financing the social sphere at the expense of the enterprises themselves. Might this possibly rectify the situation?

[Filshin] To be honest, this can hardly happen now. Let us take a look at the initial conditions. It is intended to introduce unified normatives for deductions for social development. For Siberia this will mean...reinforcing the backwardness. The profitability of enterprises in the country today is 16.8 percent, and in Irkutsk Oblast—8 percent. And yet the level of profitability determines the level of social development. Siberia's main product is raw material. And the prices for raw material, fuel and energy, and intermediate products are lower than world prices by a factor of at least two. Where are they to acquire high profit? Even now when we are introducing self-financing but postponing the price reform the enterprises have no more money for development of the social sphere than they ever did.... Here is an example. The Irkutsklesprom territorial association is one of the largest in the country, and it is the largest supplier of timber in Irkutsk Oblast: 35 million cubic meters and almost 2 million tons of pulp. But the enterprise continues to operate at a loss and its debts amount to almost R70 million. Moreover, the ministry is establishing a yield of commercial timber per hectare that is greater than is possible. And so the plan was deliberately designed to fail.

[Fokina] Are you trying to say that the new management conditions cannot change the situation?

[Filshin] Why? The conditions are not bad. But the idea is destroyed by the inadequate consistency and the half-heartedness of its implementation. In practice the Law on the State Enterprise does not protect it from the arbitrariness of the ministries and departments. Under the conditions of economically substantiated prices and the retention of fund distribution of material and technical resources, the changeover to self-financing in many cases turns out to be perfunctory. This will be true until the interests of the enterprises and the region coincide. It is necessary to go further—to territorial economic accountability. Why should the law be less independent than the branch? Why are direct agreements allowed and now even encouraged between plants while mutual redistribution and exchange of resources on an equivalent basis among territories is still considered suspect?

The economic independence that is being discussed and is being achieved today by the Siberians is necessary not for weakening their ties with other regions, but for improving the quality of these relations and transforming them from abstract philanthropic relations into the relations of a business partnership, of economic cooperation. Just as the best enterprises under the conditions of complete economic accountability can have richer development funds, so the territories that make a large contribution to the unionwide economy can (and should!) have better living conditions.

It seems that one should begin by placing the relations among the branches and the territories on an economic basis. The functions of dictators should be taken away from the departments. Let them pay for the right to locate their plants, factories, and scientific testing grounds, for the raw material, water, and land.... In the second place it is important for all the enterprises and economic accountability institutions located on the territory to turn over some of their profit to the budgets of the local authorities. Additionally, it would be expedient to envision an economic mechanism whereby the enterprises would settle accounts with the region first and then the center. And then there would be no situations such as today's: All the profit is sent to Moscow, and then the oblast tries to get what it can.

And, finally, interregional and international cooperation should be adjusted to the new conditions. For instance, today one of the most crucial problems is food. It is too difficult for the Irkutsk residents to solve it through their own forces. There are not enough residents in the rural areas. Much good land has been turned over for water reservoirs of the GES's [hydroelectric power station]. At the same time representatives of a number of rayons with highly developed agriculture are beating down the doors of the supply institutions to scare up additional funds for raw material and energy. And if the Irkutsk enterprises were to begin to dispose of some of their own products—in excess of the state order—in exchange for meat, vegetables, cheese, fruit? I think this would be reasonable.

Economic independence of the territories would make it possible to curtail ecologically harmful productions.

Of course we cannot change over to this kind of economic accountability all at once. But the stages have been thought out. The first task is to bring up the rear, to create a sufficiently strong material and technical base for the solution to social problems, and technical reconstruction of enterprises. And in this stage the program "Intensifikatsiya-95" we have developed, with which we began our conversation is very important. This is a key area without which we cannot even think about economic accountability for the region.

[Fokina] The draft of the "General Principles for Restructuring Management of the Economy and the Social Sphere in the Union Republics on the Basis of Expansion of Their Sovereign Rights, Self-Management, and Self-Financing" has just been published.

[Filshin] This document significantly advances us along the path of democratization of the economy. It seems very important to me that changing the republics and regions over to principles of self-management and self-financing is regarded in this draft as a main direction of the economic reform, as the natural culmination of the changeover of the country's economy to economic management methods. This is especially important now that a full-blown attack is being waged on the principles of self-management. Therefore I think it is necessary to augment the "General Principles" with the development of a procedure for promoting managers who are capable of realizing the principles of self-management on a new basis.

There is, however, an aspect of this document that caused me serious concern. Pay attention: As a result of the implementation of the proposed measures the proportion of the enterprises' products that are completely under the jurisdiction of the republic and regions in the overall average volume of industrial production in the union will increase from 5 to 36 percent, and in the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic]—from 4 to 27, in the Ukraine—from 5 to 42, in Moldavia—from 8 to 75, and so forth. It seems to me that something is not right here. The Russian Federation has no fewer problems than the other union republics. Russia is seriously exhausted because of uneven distribution of resources and social benefits. And to take care of the difficulties that have developed in the country through this republic alone is not merely unfair—it is a device that has run its course.

Further Reportage on Results of Recent Elections

Military District Results Reported

PM0404160589

[Editorial Report] Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 4 April 1989 First Edition front-pages a roundup of correspondent reports on the USSR Congress of People's Deputies elections under the general rubric "The Floor to USSR People's Deputies," containing the following information on results:

"Of the six USSR people's deputy candidates—representatives of the Armed Forces—nominated by Turkestan military district military unit collectives and Uzbek and Turkmen labor collectives, and registered by okrug electoral commissions, five have gained the requisite number of votes. They are Colonel General V. Omelichev, first deputy chief of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff; Lieutenant General I. Fuzhenko, commander of the Turkestan Military District; Lieutenant General A. Ovchinnikov, member of the military council and chief of the district political directorate; Lieutenant General of Aviation V. Shkanakin, commander of the Turkestan Military District air forces; and Major V. Zolotukhin, correspondent of the district newspaper FRUNZENETS."

"Voters of the No 69 Kamenskiy Territorial Okrug elected Colonel V. Pisarenko, deputy chief of the Siberian Military District Political Directorate, from three USSR people's deputy candidates. Around 71.5 percent voters voted for him."

* Soviet Peace Fund Deputies Elected

18070575 Moscow TRUD in Russian
27 Mar 89 p 2

[Unattributed Report: "On the Results of the Elections of USSR People's Deputies"]

[Text] A communication from the Electoral Commission for the election of USSR people's deputies from the Soviet Peace Fund and a number of Soviet social organizations for peace, solidarity, and international cooperation on the election results for USSR people's deputies from the Soviet Peace Fund and eight Soviet social committees for peace, solidarity, and international cooperation.

On 13 March 1989 the elections for USSR people's deputies from the Soviet Peace Fund and eight Soviet social committees for peace, solidarity, and international cooperation took place: The Soviet Committee for Solidarity with the Countries of Asia and Africa, the Soviet Committee for European Security and Cooperation, the Soviet Committee for Solidarity with the Peoples of Latin America, the Soviet committee of Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, the Committee of Soviet Scientists in the Defense Peace Against the Nuclear Threat, the Soviet Pugwash Committee, the Soviet Committee of Teachers for Peace and the Soviet Committee of Architects, Designers, and Planners of Peace for the Prevention of Nuclear War.

There were 616 delegates, or 92 percent, of the all-union conference of the Soviet Peace Fund and the eight Soviet social committees that participated in the elections.

The following were elected USSR people's deputies from the Soviet Peace Fund and the eight Soviet social organizations for peace, solidarity, and international cooperation: Bedulya, Vladimir Leontyevich, CPSU member, chairman of the "Sovetskaya Belorussiya" Kolkhoz [collective farm], Kamenetskiy rayon, Brest oblast (459 for, 157 against); Burlatskiy, Fedor Mikhaylovich, CPSU member, political columnist, LITERATURNAYA GAZETA, Moscow (328 for, 288 against); Karpov, Anatoliy Yevgenyevich, CPSU member, senior scientific associate, Lomonosova Moscow State University, chairman of the board, Soviet Peace Fund, Moscow (468 for, 148 against); Maslin, Vladimir Petrovich, CPSU member, first deputy secretary of the board of the Soviet Peace Fund, Moscow (404 for, 212 against); Savitskaya, Svetlana Yevgenyevna, member, CPSU, test-cosmonaut, "Energiya" Scientific Production Association, Moscow (490 for, 126 against).

The nomination of candidates for USSR people's deputies for the remaining two seats will be conducted during a joint plenum of the board of the Soviet Peace Fund and the managing election organs of the eight social committees for peace, solidarity, and international cooperation.

The plenum will take place 31 March 1989 at the House of Political Education of the CPSU Moscow gorkom [city party committee] at the address Moscow, Tsvetnoy Bulvar, d. 2.

The plenum opens at 10:00.

OGONEK Editor Outlines Soviet Political Situation

AU0604092389 Vienna DIE PRESSE in German
6 Apr 89 p 2

["Koes" report: " 'Killing the Slave Within Ourselves'; Leading Soviet Journalist in Vienna"]

[Text] Vienna—At present there is no alternative to Gorbachev in the Soviet Union. Vitaliy Korotich, chief editor of the Moscow monthly OGONEK, expressed this view at an event organized by the "Club Pro Wien" on Tuesday [4 April]. Restructuring is only in its initial stages. If it were to lose its leading apologist now, the country would inevitably drift toward a catastrophe.

Korotich also referred to the latest elections to the People's Deputies Congress. For the first time, the party and the leadership were confronted with the people's will. Now it remains to be seen whether it will be respected, he said. The regional and local elections to be held in November will be an even more important test for the democratic maturity of the people, the party, and the leadership.

Korotich emphatically advocated "killing the slave within ourselves." However, the prerequisite for this is greater transparency in the power structures. Information finally has to replace rumors, he stated. The prerequisite for this is also—and in the first place—the creation of a law-governed state. Many citizens are still afraid to express their opinions freely. However, the variety of opinions is an important condition for the success of reforms, Korotich said.

The Soviet Union's ideological corset also has to be revised. People who advocate a new interpretation of the Marxist-Leninist doctrine in public are still punished, he stated. However, Marx and Engels developed their ideas in a different time, a fact that has to be taken into consideration at last. Korotich accused Soviet bureaucracy of "apocalyptic thinking," which interprets every new idea as a danger to the system and suppresses it, if possible.

Belorussian Paper Discusses Chernobyl Cleanup

LD0504151289 Minsk ZVYAZDA in Belorussian 25 Mar 89 p 1

["In the Communist Party of Belorussia Central Committee and the Belorussian Soviet Socialist Republic Council of Ministers"—ZVYAZDA headline]

[Text] As was noted in the decision of the Communist Party of Belorussia Central Committee and the Belorussian Soviet Socialist Republic [BSSR] Council of Ministers "On the Working Out of the Republican Program for 1990-95 for eliminating the Consequences on the Republic's Territory of the Breakdown at the Chernobyl AES [nuclear electric power station]," over the past 3 years following the incident, vast and immediate measures to create safe conditions for the life and work of the population in the rayons affected by radioactive pollution have been carried out by party, administrative and economic organs, by industrial and agricultural work collectives, and by military units. For this purpose R905 million of capital investments have been used, 9,770 residential houses built, and 24,700 people resettled. A comprehensive amount of work concerning the deactivization of buildings, tidying up of the territories affected, the building of roads and communal facilities has been carried out. This has made it possible to solve the basic task—to ensure the radiation safety of people.

However, the situation in the zones polluted by radionuclids needs to be watched as closely as before. As the experience so far gained and the scientific prognosis show and also proceeding from the requirements of the concept of safe living, the work on eliminating consequences of the breakdown needs a qualitatively new approach which would lean on both the annual plans and an indepth, worked-out, complex program.

Thus, the commission of the Bureau of the Communist Party of Belorussia Central Committee and the BSSR Council of Ministers for eliminating consequences of the incident at the Chernobyl AES, with Comrade V. Yevtukh at its head, has been charged with working out during the next 2 months a draft of the republican complex program for dealing with the consequences of the incident and submitting it to the Communist Party of Belorussia Central Committee and the BSSR Council of Ministers.

The program should include measures for improving the medical services for and the health of the population, the organization of agricultural production, complex construction, tidying up of the territories, their deactivization, the improvement in the organization of trade and public catering, providing cadres, and other measures.

It was found also to be expedient to improve the coordination and control over the fulfilment of the work on eliminating the results of the breakdown to create special subsectors in the BSSR Council of Ministers and in Gosplan [State Planning Committee] and in the Gomel and Mogilev Oblast executive committees.

With the aim of improving information for the population and raising the truthfulness of information on the state of work in eliminating consequences of the Chernobyl incident, a special group, with N. Mazay at its head, has been formed within the commission.

Baltic Ecologists Examine Environmental Threats

PM0504114289 Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 1 Apr 89 p 13

[Kaa Eneberg report: "Near Accidents at Ignalina Ignored""]

[Text] Baltic environmental experts are calling for independent researchers unconnected with the international atomic energy agency [IAEA] in Vienna to inspect the large Soviet nuclear power station at Ignalina in the Soviet republic of Lithuania. The nuclear power station, of the same type as the Chernobyl plant, has been affected by several near-accidents and is seen by researchers as a potential threat to the whole of the Baltic region.

The distrust of the IAEA, headed by Sweden's Hans Blix, was voiced by Lithuanian Professor Vaidotas Antanaitis and physicist Zigmas Vaisvila, currently visiting Sweden with representatives of the environmental movements of the three Baltic states.

"After the fire at Ignalina in September the IAEA sent a representative to carry out an investigation at the power station. The inspection was very hasty and after the so-called inspection the IAEA representative declared at a press conference in Vilnius that everything was well at the power station. He was not at all willing to discuss what had happened," said Zigmas Vaisvila, himself a former nuclear physicist who now works full-time on environmental matters at the Supreme Soviet in Vilnius.

He considers that the IAEA was not acting responsibly in the case of the Ignalina power station—and that this is to the detriment of the work of environmentalists. Moscow nowadays makes reference to the IAEA's positive evaluation of the situation at the nuclear power station and turns a deaf ear to criticism. The Lithuanian environmentalist movement is now trying to assemble an international group of researchers to inspect the power station, where the Russians are planning to build yet another reactor—the third. It is hoped that Swedish researchers will be interested.

In an interview with DAGENS NYHETER Zigmas Vaisvila pointed out that while it is true that the Soviet Union has stated that it does not intend to build more reactors of the Chernobyl type, it has not, however, promised not to extend those that already exist. The fire and other near-accidents in the last 6 months have only postponed the construction of the third reactor, he said.

Both Professor Antanaitis and Zigmas Vaisvila were successful candidates for Sajudis in last Sunday's elections to the Soviet People's Congress, and were elected with 60-70 percent support.

For the next couple of weeks the group of environmentalists will brief the Swedish authorities, researchers, and academic institutes on the work of environmentalists in the Baltic states, which is made more difficult by the lack of access to the environmentally dangerous industries, which are inspected by Moscow without any local involvement.

Zigmas Vaisvila is a pronounced opponent of nuclear power, and won an overwhelming victory in January against a local party chief in by-elections to the Lithuanian Supreme Soviet.

Professor Antanaitis, head of the Forestry Research Institute in Kaunas, has long been involved in an environmental campaign in the town of Jonava, which was hit a week ago by an environmental accident which is expected to have serious consequences in the future. The accident happened at the large Azoto ammonia factory, the biggest producer of artificial fertilizer in the whole of the Baltic region, which with its poisonous effluents has long been a threat to people and plants.

"It was a totally unique accident and no one knew how to deal with it. Some 30,000 to 40,000 people were immediately evacuated out of the way of the clouds of poison which were created from ammonia and the various poisonous compounds, and emergency teams were summoned to the area from various republics."

Despite all the Soviet Union's glasnost it was difficult to obtain information about what happened, but the professor, who has long been studying the dying forest around the town and the giant factory, said that we have to expect serious damage to the groundwater in the future. He has established from eyewitness accounts that the people evacuated found all their chickens dead when they returned home.

The large fertilizer plant, which Antanaitis has been able to study at close quarters, has meant, for example, that the forest within a radius of 25 km around the town shows signs of poisoning. He reckons that the forest is dying at a rate of 2 km per year. Asked how the population's health is affected, he replied philosophically:

"The health of the forest is the same as the health of the people!"

The same fears that exist amongst the local people in Ignalina have also long been found among the people of Jonava who have, for example, demonstrated against the plant without success. On the day before the election, when the people had begun to return to their homes, Professor Antanaitis intended to make an election speech in Jonava, but he was prevented from doing so by the local authorities.

The Baltic environmental movements, from which the People's Fronts have grown, are all agreed that local access to the Russian industries is a precondition for improvements. Today there is generally an absence of information about industrial effluents, health risks, and so on. People are not satisfied with the centrally controlled environmental committees which exist in a number of fields.

"We have to have an effective information system. It is true that we have computers but they are old and we live like blind people," Professor Antanaitis said.

A major environmental villain is the highly productive Lithuanian agricultural industry which pollutes groundwater and water courses. It is estimated that 30 percent of groundwater is polluted and that one-third of Lithuania's lakes are "green" and overfertilized. Also, large cities like Kaunas have no water purification treatment.

Like their neighbors, the Lithuanians have recently won the right to have their own flag and national anthem. In March the environmental movement published its first newspaper, ZALIOJI LIETUVA—Green Lithuania. Its editor, Ruta Grineviciute, is also taking part in the visit to Sweden.

Ionava Fire Fighters Applauded; Cause Unclear

PM0604082589 Vilnius SOVETSKAYA LITVA in Russian 23 Mar 89 p 3

[Yu. Stroganov report: "Danger Eliminated"]

[Text] Yesterday evening at approximately 1700 the fire that had broken out during the 20 March accident at the "Azotas" production association in Ionava was put out. As is known, following an ammonia tank explosion a large quantity of liquid was spilled and a "nitrofoska" [Soviet product name] fertilizer depot located nearby caught fire. This set off a chemical reaction as a result of which clouds of poisonous gas began to form. As no accident of this kind had ever happened in our country before, it was very important to make the right decisions promptly.

"People did all they could in this very complex situation," General S. Nekroshus, Lithuanian Civil Defense chief of staff, said. "They did their utmost, with no thought for themselves."

I put the following question to Lieutenant Colonel Z. Kemezhis, deputy chief of the Lithuanian Ministry of Internal Affairs Fire Fighting Administration:

[Stroganov] How were the operations to put out the fire organized?

[Kemezhis] We received the signal at 1110 hours 20 March. In accordance with the regulations for dealing with this kind of situation, security units to guard the installation and fire fighting teams were dispatched to the scene of the accident from Ukmerge, Shirvintos, and Kayshyadoris. Units from Kaunas took part in the work to eliminate the consequences of the accident. At 1200 hours a Lithuanian Republic Fire Fighting Administration flying squad set out from Vilnius. A large quantity of equipment was mobilized. Colleagues from Latvia and Belorussia helped out.

[Stroganov] What was the difficulty in putting out the fire at the depot?

[Kemezhis] Strictly speaking, it was not even a fire. We were able to quickly put out the flames in the production premises and elsewhere, but no one knew how the "nitrofoska" would behave. It was the first time that we had come up against such a phenomenon. After a while, following scientists' advice we started taking action at the depot. [Kemezhis ends]

Z. Kemezhis named the people who had distinguished themselves in putting out the fire—V. Buchis, leader of one of the Kaunas units, and A. Rachkauskas, one of the administration's staffers. An analysis of the situation is yet to be drawn up by a government commission, but there are no complaints about the fire fighters. They discharged their duty with honor. All of them perfectly understood how dangerous the chemical reaction taking place at the depot was for the health of thousands of people. They battled with the fire, risking their own lives, knowing how precious every hour was. Genrik Narkevich, section commander, internal service sergeant, candidate member of the CPSU, perished in this difficult duel.

"We knew Genrik Vladislavovich as a wonderful colleague and a strong person," R. Petrauskas, chief of a section of the republic fire fighting administration, told us. "He joined us in 1979 after his Army service. He was awarded the medal for impeccable service in internal affairs organs, 3d class. He was holder of the title of master of sport in applied fire fighting sports disciplines. He always rushed to the most difficult spot...."

Let us pay tribute to courage and heroism....

"I must also mention the excellent organizational work in dealing with the accident done by Yonas Valis, chairman of the Ionavskiy Rayon Soviet Executive Committee [rayispolkom], and Alfonsas Bernotas, chairman of Ukmergskiy Rayispolkom," S. Nekroshus said in conclusion.

Lithuania's Brazauskas on Economy, Sovereignty

PM0304132489 Vilnius SOVETSKAYA LITVA in Russian 19 Mar 89 pp 1-2

[ELTA report: "The Main Aim Is the People's Prosperity"]

[Text] Algirdas Brazauskas, first secretary of the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee and candidate USSR people's deputy for Vilnyusskiy-Leninskiy Territorial Electoral Okrug No 685, met with voters on 17 March—the collective of the "Venta" Science and Production Association.

Opening the meeting, Kazimeras Klimashauskas, general director of the association, noted that the auditorium can, unfortunately, seat only some of those wishing to attend from the collective of many thousands of workers. We are very interested in Algirdas Brazauskas' political activity, he stressed, we approve the political line and practical actions of the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee headed by him, and we hope that if he is elected to the country's parliament, he will be able to work still more successfully for the republic's good.

The voters were briefed on the candidate deputy's life by Laymutis Tyalksnis, deputy director of the Institute of Mathematics and Cybernetics and corresponding member of the Lithuanian SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] Academy of Sciences.

Algirdas Brazauskas, who was greeted warmly by those present, delivered a speech.

The purpose of the restructuring begun by the party," he noted, "is to substantially improve the working people's life. But nearly 4 years have passed, and there are still no appreciable results. This was said again at the recent CPSU Central Committee plenum. It is good that we have uncovered the errors of the past and that we speak openly about problems, but the question arises: Why can we not give people what they have earned and what they should have?

There is only one answer to this: excessive centralization and command and bureaucratic methods of management. We need economic autonomy, for which the republic's scientists were among the first in the country to prepare a formula and which will be implemented from next year. As an integral part of the USSR's economic system, we can and must manage the republic's economy at our own discretion and develop the social sphere. The principle of sector management that exists at present holds back republics, production associations and enterprises, and labor collectives. For this reason we are totally unable to balance income and expenditure. Every year the country spends a lot of money which there are neither the goods nor the services to cover. Last year alone this imbalance was R14 billion. The result—rising prices, the emergence of a shadow economy, and some of the population patently living beyond their means. Can it be right for some people to easily earn thousands, while others receive only R150 a month? Our aim is, by not restricting wages for highly skilled labor, to ensure that everyone can earn more and live better.

Therefore, A. Brazauskas noted, we need to dismantle the pressure of vertical management and grant full autonomy to the labor collectives. Let them decide for themselves how to organize work and how to distribute its fruits. Let people compete at the machine tool, not in the bureaucrats' offices. For many years we tried to replace the law of competitiveness with socialist competition, but clearly this did not yield the desired results.

This applies not only to industry, but also to agriculture. In agriculture there were even more directives from above. This practice was condemned at the recent CPSU Central Committee plenum. A. Brazauskas spoke of the problems it examined and the ways of recitifying the situation in agriculture. In my speech, he stressed, I said: Those who till the land should manage it. Not the agro-industrial committee, not some other department, not the party organs, but the grain grower himself. And it does not matter what form he chooses—whether he works on a collective farm [kolkhoz] or becomes a peasant, whether he joins an interfarm association or enters a cooperative. Nearly one-fifth of the republic's workers are in agriculture. That is a great many, although it is true that we produce nearly twice as much output as we consume. But if the farmer is not restricted, even more produce could be produced. We must make more efficient use of this economic potential.

On the whole, A. Brazauskas continued, our economy is not efficient: Much raw material and power is consumed. Hence all the problems—the budget deficit, insufficient resources for health care, education, and, particularly, social security. We have recognized that we cannot go on like this. But recent phenomena cause concern. In some collectives labor discipline has begun to falter, students and schoolchildren are not studying so well, and the number of crimes has increased.

One can understand the universal desire to abolish the obsolete norms of life as quickly as possible, but true restructuring is possible only through consistent work, with every step being checked and every possible result considered. This was stressed again at the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee plenum, which assessed the present political situation in the republic. It was stated unequivocally at the plenum: There is no way back, but nor can rushing forward rashly result in anything good. The Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee and the republic government, A. Brazauskas said in conclusion, feel responsible for the people's future. It is trying to realize this duty in the form of concrete actions and decisions; our main aim is the people's prosperity.

The candidate USSR people's deputy was asked questions.

[Question] Will microelectronics develop in Lithuania?

[Brazauskas] Microelectronics is a special and, let me say, aristocratic technical sector that requires highly skilled specialists, a high standard of technology, and highly developed production. The electronics industry has prospects in our republic. We must think carefully about the methods by which it can be developed and expanded. Much remains to be done, and we will certainly do it.

[Question] Our enterprise has been working under the conditions of economic accountability since the beginning of the year. Is state acceptance necessary, in your view, at an economically accountable enterprise?

[Brazauskas] At the present stage it is evidently necessary to some extent, but in future, when the law of competitiveness and other economic levers begin to operate, such supervision will hardly be expedient.

State acceptance should begin from below—with raw materials and semifinished materials—and only then assess the end product. That is logical.

If you take, for instance, machine tools, which are supplied for the republic by some 300 enterprises, we will see that the enterprise or collective that produces them is responsible for the end result. But state acceptance does not apply to the systems that are installed on the machine tools. Hence all the misunderstandings.

[Question] Was it necessary to build Snechkus in Lithuania, for it to become a powder keg?

[Brazauskas] This question is formulated far too emotively. First, it is not a powder keg, and I cannot agree with that description. Following an urgent demand, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) will visit the Ignalina Nuclear Power Station this year. The expert report recently carried out at the Rovno Nuclear Power Station showed that it performs well and represents no danger.

I do not think the Ignalina Nuclear Power Station can be regarded as a powder keg. But its collective must be strengthened and discipline imposed. And we are taking a very responsible approach to this. Much has changed there recently. The construction of the third unit has stopped.

But it is well known that we consume less electricity than the average for the country, although we produce 10 percent more industrial output per head of population and 70 percent more agricultural output. So our electricity consumption is not high. But we must think about the future. In 5 or 6 years, serious difficulties could arise with electricity.

[Question] What is your concept of sovereignty?

[Brazauskas] I use the term real sovereignty, for instance, although legally this term is imprecise. I am in favor of sovereignty within the USSR. I cannot imagine how we could get by without links with the other republics. I always advocate that the concept of sovereignty includes the potential for economic links with foreign countries. This is one of the main ways to update technology, improve the technical standard of output, and launch it on the international market. This is a very good, effective means of gradually joining in the worldwide distribution of social labor. [Brazauskas ends]

On the same day A. Brazauskas met with voters at the Railmen's Palace of Culture. The candidate deputy was introduced to the voters, mainly railroad transport workers, by V. Kastanauskas, chief of the Vilnius Branch of the Baltic Railroad, who described his activity in party and soviet organs.

Both in his speech and in his answers to the numerous questions, A. Brazauskas spoke about the republic's economic accountability. Centralization and departmentalism, he noted, complicate the railmen's work, too. On many questions you are obliged to appeal to the Baltic Railroad Administration, which is in Riga. Yet many questions, in particular such matters as the utilization of financial and material resources, the construction of social facilities, and participation in the formation of the local budget, could and should be resolved locally. Is this not one reason why more than 1,000 railmen's families are waiting for apartments in Vilnius? Why has the construction of the Vaydotskaya freightcar sorting station been going on for nearly 11 years? Why are insufficient funds allocated for the modernization of the railroad service? In implementing the concept of economic autonomy the republic government seeks to ensure that Lithuania's railmen work autonomously and are not subordinate to an entirely unnecessary component—the railroad administration.

Many Vilnius labor collectives, first and foremost the railmen, are international. The speaker recalled that Lithuanians and Russians, Poles and Belorussians, and people of other nationalities have always worked together and lived in harmony. So it will continue. True, the concern of certain strata of society led to the proclamation of Lithuanian as the state language. But this legislative act was in no way intended to infringe the constitutional rights of people of other nationalities. The number of places in Russian or Polish kindergartens, creches, and schools will not be reduced. There will still be Russian- and Polish-language tuition groups in higher educational establishments. Of course, opportunities for studying all specialities in these languages, especially those specialities for which the republic's need is limited, are unlikely to exist. But these specialities can be studied in other republics, and people can then return to Lithuania. There will be no obstacles. And that, incidentally, is how it has always been.

The public is actively discussing the draft Lithuanian SSR Constitution. A. Brazauskas called on those present to express ideas in the press and submit proposals to the Supreme Soviet Presidium. The republic Fundamental Law, democratically discussed and adopted, will ensure that the rights and freedoms of all inhabitants of Lithuania are guaranteed.

Ya. Gagilene and A. Serbentavichyus, first secretaries of Leninskiy and Sovetskiy Rayon Communist Party Committees, were present at A. Brazauskas' meetings with voters.

Latvia's Vagris Addresses War, Labor Veterans

PM0404142589 Riga SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA in Russian 19 Mar 89 pp 1-2

[Report by LATINFORM correspondent B. Sebyakin: "Surrounding Veterans with Respect and Concern: Meeting With Activists of the Riga City Council of War and Labor Veterans at the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee"]

[Excerpts] Veteran is a very expansive word. It brings up many connotions: devotion to duty, wisdom, and skill. But it also brings to mind another string of associations: old age, illness, loneliness, lack of money.... Unfortunately, in life the most antithetical phenomena sometimes go hand in hand. That is why the scope of the problems touched on at the meeting with party, war, and labor veterans held at the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee on 17 March was extremely broad, ranging from the introduction of free travel on public transport for all categories of invalids to proposals designed to improve the political situation.

Opening the meeting, Ya.Ya. Vagris, first secretary of the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee, stressed that the assembled activists of the veterans community had devoted their best years to the service of the people and the execution of party decisions and he thanked thenm all for this on behalf of the Central Committee Bureau. He went on to say that a city conference of Riga veterans would be held 18 March, the first since the republic veterans organization was set up. There is subject matter for discussion on the eve of this event, because veterans also have quite a few problems. He said he would like to hear what is worrying veterans and the kind of help they need. [passage omitted]

Several notes and oral questions were submitted to the meeting's presidium, and answers were given. There were a number of questions related to the upcoming elections. Some of them were addressed directly to Ya.Ya. Vagris as USSR people's candidate deputy for Proletarskiy Territorial Electoral Okrug No 708. Veterans noted that, in their opinion, all deputies should be worthy of this high calling, and it is essential therefore that voting be treated with a sense of special responsibility, and preference be given everywhere to candidates who have demonstrated by their deeds their devotion to the ideals of socialism and readiness to play an active part in restructuring. In the opinion of many participants in the meeting, Communist Ya.Ya. Vagris is deserving of such trust.

The concluding address was delivered by Ya.Ya. Vagris. He said, among other things, that now, whatever the auditorium and whatever the theme, talk always turns to discussion of the political situation. And that is no wonder, because it has sharpened in our republic recently.

"First secretaries of city and rayon party committees [gorkoms and raykoms] and I recently assembled and we discussed the situation," Ya.Ya. Vagris went on to say.

"What is happening? On 5 January we held a plenum of the republic Communist Party Central Committee. The stress in its decisions was correctly placed, and most Communists, and indeed most of the republic's population, support the party stance. But the organizational and ideological work necessary to implement these decisions on the part of our departments did not ensue. Rayon and primary organizations are also accustomed for some reason to work in the old way, only on instruction from above. They have been awaiting instructions. The Central Committee, however, is saying nothing; likewise the raykom. And the primary party organization acts as if it does not have to work. So we all need to restructure ourselves, comrades. Although I am not trying to remove responsibility from the Central Committee, do let us work at local level, too. Every Communist should act not only on instruction but according to the prompting of his conscience.

I want to address you, as veterans with enormous experience. The fact that a certain section of the population entertains a distorted notion of democracy has been recognized by us. Consolidation is something we should talk about, but not just talk about—we also need to actually do work and consolidate ourselves. It is necessary to work with the People's Front and the International Front. We are doing so and extending invitations to them, but it is too little, too infrequent, and insufficient. The attitude adopted to these questions is often overemotional. We merely note what divides these movements. But, comrades, there are Communists, after all, in each of the fronts. And therefore, whatever front a Communist may be in, he should first and foremost remember that he is a Communist and pursue the party line in the organization in which he works.

If we took decisions in the Central Committee on every resolution and every open letter, of which many are now being published, we would do nothing but sit and write. But decisions are not the point: It is necessary to go to the people, and veterans have correctly noted that we do not visit labor collectives enough. So meeting with you today is a good thing. I think that there is far greater benefit derived from our discussion today than if we had learned the opinion of some of you somewhere and then written the document on your behalf behind closed doors.

A question: Where should Communists be? If you are to act in Leninist fashion, you should be everywhere where the masses are found. But proposals that Communists be recalled from a particular front are sometimes heard. Undoubtedly each one should, however, be accountable to the party, since each belongs to a primary organization somewhere. The role of primary organizations must be enhanced.

You undoubtedly sense the thrust of the processes under way today. We accept the criticism voiced here and will be guided by it in our activity and take account of your suggestions, Ya.Ya. Vagris said in conclusion.

The meeting was attended by V.Ya. Akmentin, M.Ya. Dubra, and G.N. Loskutov, chiefs of Latvian Communist Party Central Committee departments.

'Inflammatory' Appeals at Estonian Rally Noted

PM0404162989 Tallinn SOVETSKAYA ESTONIYA in Russian 19 Mar 89 p 3

[Unattributed article: "Concerning Documents Adopted at 14 March Rally of Soviet Estonia's Working People"]

[Text] The rally adopted a series of documents: "Resolution by the Rally of Soviet Estonia's Working People Devoted to Consolidation of Forces for Socialist Restructuring," "Address by Rally Participants to the Estonian People," "Address by Rally Participants to the USSR Working People."

The rally resolution notes with alarm the tension in interethnic relations in the republic and the emergence of clearly expressed nationalist and separatist attitudes. Disagreement is expressed with a series of legislative acts, either adopted or in preparation, which discriminate against the Russian-speaking population. The voice of the 600,000-strong multinational Russian-speaking population is not heeded, the resolution notes, and they are ignored in Supreme Soviet decisions.

The rally participants believe that the political process in Estonia is shifting toward the replacement of socialist values by bourgeois values, and Estonian workers' awareness is being channeled by nationalistically inclined groups toward asserting priority for the republic's Estonian population and is being deliberately sidetracked from the solution of economic problems.

"We have understanding and respect for the Estonian people's national feelings and their desire to be masters of their own fate, but let it be their own rather than other people's," the resolution says.

The resolution goes on to list demands submitted to the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee and to the Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] Supreme Soviet and its Presidium, which basically boil down to the following:

that a republican party conference (with direct election of delegates) should be held not later than 10 April 1989 and M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, invited to it; that the adoption of the republican draft law on citizenship should be postponed until after the CPSU Central Committee plenum on interethnic relations; that the state flag should be raised on the Big Hermann Tower; that, should it be decided to change the Estonian SSR state flag, it should include the color red; that direct or indirect fanning of interethnic dissension in all mass media or public speeches should cease; and that proceedings should be immediately instituted against persons committing such actions.

The resolution also contains a number of points formulated in a tone nothing short of an ultimatum, which will undoubtedly contribute to the further fanning of passions and further exacerbation of ethnic relations to which the rally organizers and participants are so ardently opposed.

For example, the resolution's last (11th) point is formulated as follows:

"A reply to this resolution must be published in the press by 28 March. In the event of our demands being ignored or turned down, we reserve our right to take further steps for their implementation."

One might be permitted to ask: Who is it that the authors expect to reply to this resolution? And is the language of threats sensible today?

There are far more sober words and ideas to be heard in the "Address by Rally Participants to the Estonian People." We publish its text subject to small deletions and essential stylistic corrections.

"We rally participants, just like the entire population, are extremely perturbed by the course of events occurring in the republic. There is hardly anyone among us who does not understand the Estonian people's desire to restore their history. The Estonian and the Russian-speaking populations are equally dissatisfied with the present living standards. We all have suffered pain and insults in the past. But the process of cleansing and of elaborating new thinking cannot be instantaneous, let alone that of raising living standards.

"This requires time and our joint efforts. Estonia, its nature, and its culture have become also the home of the 600,000-strong Russian-speaking population. For many decades we have worked together; we know each other's worries and desires. It is incumbent on us today to stand in rallied ranks in the struggle for restructuring launched at the CPSU Central Committee's initiative. Any split, unless we overcome it, will bury any dreams about a better and fair future.

"Today we call on you to join us and say 'NO!' to:

"irresponsible publications in mass media inflaming interethnic dissension and sowing the poisoned seed of enmity in people's souls;

"the aoption of hasty and discriminatory legislative acts setting one nation in opposition to another;

"the splitting of Estonia's working people and its entire population along national lines.

"We call on you to join us and say 'YES!' to:

"Soviet Estonia's economic revival;

"the cohesion of all peoples in Soviet Estonia for the sake of our children's happiness;

"an ecologically clean habitat for the republic's inhabitants;

"honest and amicable debate on any problems concerning the future of Soviet Estonia and the USSR;

"genuine flourishing of our peoples' cultures.

"Everything for the man of labor!

"Adopted at a rally of Soviet Estonia's working people 14 March 1989."

As regards the "Address by Rally Participants to the USSR Working People," we perceive no need to publish since it essentially repeats in brief what the foregoing documents say.

We would very much like to hope that all rally participants will correctly interpret the editorial office's decision to publish the documents in summary form. Our guidelines in this were provided by your own wishes: "To renounce publications inflaming interethnic dissension and sowing the poisoned seed of enmity in people's souls."

Estonian 'Intermovement' Activist Arraigned

PM0404164389 Tallinn SOVETSKAYA ESTONIYA in Russian 22 Mar 89 p 4

[Article by Senior Counselor of Justice Yu. Kazesalu, Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic deputy prosecutor: "In the Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic Prosecutor's Office"]

[Text] The stand taken by the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee and the republic government on questions of the economy, national symbols, and other problems of social life has generated approval as well as criticism by different groupings and movements.

Struggle between different opinions is a basic sign of democracy, but this should not produce a situation whereby the interests of the state and its citizens, which are protected by the law, are jeopardized and current laws are broken. To uphold the law is a function of law-enforcement organs.

Up to now the activity of some representatives of social movements has not gone beyond the framework of administrative legal breaches. There were, however, recent instances in the republic when persons belonging to diverse groupings and movements expounded their political beliefs by disseminating defamations of other persons or deliberate defamations of the Soviet state or social system. Apart from the unlawful nature of such statements, they exacerbate further still the already tense political situation in the republic, aggravate contradictions between different groupings and movements, and could lead to the commission of grave crimes against public order and individual persons.

Law-enforcement organs are forced to respond to such manifestations by applying the full force of the law.

In his speech at the International Movement Congress held in early March, "Estrybprom" Association Representative Rozhok—instead of offering constructive criticism—described as fascistization the process of democratization guided by the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee and the republic government. He addressed defamatory statements to the creative intelligentsia, the republic's scientists, and specific party and state figures. Essentially false generalizations were made about the housing-allocation procedure. He also repeatedly described violence as a way to implement his ideas.

Having appraised this speech aimed at destabilizing the political situation and law and order in the republic, the Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic Prosecutor's Office has now instituted criminal proceedings.

'Democratic Principles' of Justice Discussed

PM0404141389 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Mar 89 Second Edition p 2

["Own information" report: "Lawyers Confer"]

[Text] A joint session of the academic council and the All-Union Bureau for the Coordination of Research into the Criminal Process was held yesterday at the USSR Prosecutor's Office Problems of Strengthening Legality and Law and Order Research Institute.

Issues of great importance for the implementation of the 19th party conference decisions on legal reform were discussed. The scientific and practical workers present were familiarized with the draft Fundamental Principles for the Legislation of the USSR and the Union Republics on the Judicial System and the Law on the Status of Courts in the USSR.

Talk turned first to the development and deepening of democratic principles of justice. In particular, it was proposed to substantially broaden citizens' right to a judicial defense, in order to ensure that it is not only individual rights—honor, dignity, life, health, personal freedom, and property—that are entitled to a judicial defense, but also other rights and freedoms envisaged by the USSR Constitution and laws, both socioeconomic and political. The need to broaden the composition of the judges' collegium, in particular, for cases of serious crime was underlined. The principle of presumption of innocence was worded more clearly and introduced into the draft law. Great attention was devoted to the problem of judges' independence and the system of guarantees ensuring the real independence of the judges and the people's assessor. The grounds and procedure for their recall and early release were also determined.

The academic council also recommended publishing drafts for broad discussion in order to completely exclude secrecy from decision-making.

News Conference Held on Youth Labor Colonies

LD0404165889 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 4 Apr 89

[Text] A briefing took place at the USSR Internal Affairs Ministry at which journalists were acquainted with the progress of an experiment to further humanize the corrective process in educational-labor colonies for minors. Our correspondent Anatoliy Fedorov reports:

[Fedorov] Some information first of all. Up to 1 March, 27,587 minors were serving sentences in 89 such institutions, including 1,324 girls in five educational-labor colonies. Of these, 323 people have been convicted of murder, 557 for committing serious crimes. There are currently more than 11,000 teenagers in the investigation isolation wards of the USSR Internal Affairs Ministry. An experiment was begun 4 months ago introducing a new model in the educational-labor colony. Are the first results visible, are there any problems? I asked Colonel vladimir Petrovich Astakhov, deputy chief of the Directorate of Educational-Labor and Drugs Treatment Institutions of the Main Directorate for Corrective Matters of the USSR Internal Affairs Ministry.

[Astakhov] Unfortunately, if one wants to categorize things connected with achieving final results, we cannot boast today. But the one thing that I can say is that we have not been sitting still. We have carried out and are actively introducing in four colonies and are monitoring on an experimental basis all our experience. In particular, at the Novotroitskaya correctional-labor colony in Mari Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic [ASSR], we are monitoring on an experimental basis individual elements of a new model for a correctional-labor colony. This envisages primarily humanizing the care regime, democratizing the work of these colonies, and involving a broad range of the public in the educational process. To be more specific, there is a structural reorganization as a whole going on of the processes of correcting and reeducation, and the colony itself is acquiring a new outward look of a training and educational institution as opposed to the strictly regulated institution that existed in the past.

[Fedorov] So you mean that the barbed wire has been removed and the submachine guns have been taken away, not to mention the other attributes of a prison?

[Astakhov] In addition, we have been able to set up several new subdepartments within the colony which are to work energetically on correcting and reeducating in a new capacity—from the point of view of fulfilling their social contract more fully—in returning to society as socially useful and law-abiding citizens. The most important thing is that they are protected to the maximum from the influence of adult criminals. In Mari ASSR now, all the youths who are arrested for perpetrating crimes spend the period of preliminary investigation not in the investigative isolation unit where they used to be kept along with adults, but here at the educational-labor colony, where we have the opportunity to study the personality of these juveniles, to identify their susceptibilities, and then, somehow, to continue our educational process. So our educational process is deepened during the period of preliminary investigation. The most important thing is that at the Novotroyitskaya educational-labor colony we have built a social adaptation block outside the colony, where youths who have already embarked firmly on the path of correction and whom we feel no longer need such harsh isolation, are allowed the opportunity to live outside the colony in this kind of semi-freedom atmosphere without being guarded but under supervision. As a rule, they work on a subsididary plot or at some workshop nearby. They learn through consulting with a consultation center, but in practice they are adapting to the conditions of their new life, their future life of freedom.

[Fedorov] The educational labor colony is now regarded as a production unity. the colony produces output to the value of R300 million - in the order of 10,000 per inmate. Along with time spent at school, they are employed for 11 hours. Is this a correct attitude for the educational labor colony or not?

[Astakhov] Of course, this approach requires improvement, and we believe that, first and foremost, a direct transfer of appraisal indicators—the norms for working methods which are applied to convicted adults—must be changed. They must be changed, because we are now transfering them to minors. We believe that for this reason a haphazard nature has come about in the organization of production activity in the educational-labor colony, for the most part without taking any account of the pedagogic expediency in determining the kind of production and the list of output being produced. Therefore, the volume of output being produced has already surpassed all reasonable limits. This disorder must, of course, now be tackled, and we are now working on it.

[Fedorov] Good, basic food should contribute to their reeducation, but at the moment the daily norm comes to 62 kopeks. Frequently there is insufficient fruit, milk, and other vitamins. Is this a problem, too?

[Astakhov] Of course, this is a fundamental problem, because this is directly related to the health of a person in our society, and we are, of course, sounding the alarm here. But, of course, we are asking people to help us establish these new norms. This falls within the competence of the USSR Council of Ministers.

[Fedorov] The deferment of sentences for minors. At present we have more than 100,000 juveniles in this situation in our country. What does your practice show in your establishments?

[Astakhov] On the whole, a course toward deferring the serving of a sentence is the right course from the point of view of humanization, but I would like to stress this problem: The deferment should still be applied with consideration for the personality and with consideration for the seriousness of the crime which has been committed. A situation has now come about when society has virtually nothing more to do with the juvenile after the stage of pronouncement of the sentence. The juvenile receives a deferment of his sentence, and he goes back to the same environment from which he has come. In the last 3 months in particular, of 10 who arrived at the educational-labor colony, 7 had previously been given deferred sentences. This is a problem for us. On the whole, the system is now such that almost 30 percent of the boys whom we reeducate have had deferred sentences.

Reforms in Labor Colonies Addressed

LD0504124889 Moscow TASS in English 1211 GMT 5 Apr 89

[Text] Moscow April 5 TASS—By TASS correspondent Nikita Demidov:

Nearly 1,000 less adolescents are now kept in Educative Labour Colonies (ELC) of the USSR Interior Ministry as compared with last year, a Moscow press conference was told on Tuesday. [4 April]

This is due to a more lenient attitude of the courts to the serving of sentences. The practice is already being softened—prior to the entering into force of new penal legislation, the draft fundamentals of which are under discussion in the USSR.

At the same time it was noted at the press conference that the existing system for the serving of sentences by minors in ELC's, where 27,587 minors were kept as of March 1, 1989, did not produce the desired results.

The recidivous delinquency rate is high—6.8 per cent. Many legal norms have become outdated and do not meet the requirements of humanisation and democratisation.

For example, there are no ELC's for adolescents in 25 areas of the Russian Federation. Because of that youngsters are confined to an "adult" colony where they often find themselves under the influence of habitual criminals.

Minors kept in remote colonies are even deprived of the possibility to regularly meet relatives and acquaintances.

Although the adolescent's average term at the place of detention is 1.5 years in the USSR, the administrations of these colonies seek only to neutralise the criminals' adverse influence on minors. There remains practically no time for beginning up adolescents.

A new model of ELC has been suggested by the USSR Interior Ministry to raise the efficiency of correctional and re-educational work among minors.

The newly-suggested ELC model is based on humanising the serving of sentences, on differentiation of detention conditions depending on correction conditions, the priority of psychological and pedagogical methods of upbringing, and the drawing of the inmates into self-management at the colony.

Elements of the new ELC model are now being experimentally tested in 21 colonies within the framework of the current legislation.

At the same time suggestions tested in practice are up for endorsement. The suggestions envisage, in particular, defining ELC's as educational institutions and eliminating the division of colonies according to the strictness of regime, and the serving of the entire term by adolescents at an ELC without being transferred to an "adult" colony when he attains the age of 18, and the extension of the rights of the administration and the inmates.

All "prison attributes"—barbed wire and watchtowers—have been removed in 15 colonies already. The meeting rooms have been re-equipped: Juvenile delinquents may now speak with parents directly, and not by telephone divided by a glass partition.

Experiments have produced results: Crime among the convicted decreased by almost one-third in 1988 and rowdy behaviour by 47.8 per cent. No offences were committed in 24 ELC's.

* Youth Violence Continues to Plague Kazan

18000692b Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 23 Mar 89 p 4

[Article by V. Romanchin, SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA special correspondent: "The Boomerang of Indifference; What Has Changed in Recent Months in Juvenile Crimes in Kazan?"]

[Text] A good deal has been written about the "Kazan phenomenon." They have written about the "raids" by young persons from Kazan on Moscow and other cities where they committed "bold crimes" as well as about the rackets and "labor reserves" for the Mafia.... All of this could not help but create an unhealthy atmosphere around Kazan.

Much that has been written and said has not quite such a terrible but nevertheless real basis to it. And hence it is essential to find the roots of this complex phenomenon and analyze why the "illness" afflicting the city has lasted for long years.

Each year Kazan has been visited by large commissions from the most diverse organizations, from the All-Union Pioneer Organization to the Academy of the USSR MVD [Ministry of Internal Affairs]. They have all endeavored to provide practical aid to their Kazan colleagues in solving the problem of growing juvenile crime. Entire programs and a special regulation have been worked out and these include a long list of essential measures.

The law enforcement bodies have also increased their activities. Special operational-search groups have been organized. For ensuring public order, additional detachments of police have been sent from various regions of the Russian Federation. The number of police posts and patrol routes through the city has been doubled. A brigade of specialists from the USSR MVD has arrived to provide practical aid to the internal affairs bodies in the capital of Tataria. But Kazan, as before, continues to be anxious.

Fights in Kazan, in truth, have now ceased to have a mass nature, as was the case previously when up to 200 people participated on both sites in the "clashes." The reinforced police detachments, the Komsomol [All-Union Leninist Communist Youth Leaque] teams, and the public raids have forced the "rebels" to change tactics. Now they travel in threes or fives, arming themselves with ordinary hockey sticks or ski poles. The fights are quick and for this reason before the patrol car can arrive the group has scattered, leaving a bleeding victim.

Generally speaking, it is too early to be complacent. All the more as the complacent attitude for a long time prevented the leading workers of the republic MVD, the procurator's office, the party, and soviet bodies from being effectively concerned with the problem.

Statistics Show:

According to the data of the UVD [Internal Affairs Department] of the city soviet executive committee [gorispolkom], Kazan presently has 63 groupings. In them are over 1,700 persons and two-thirds are juveniles. They have discovered 180 "authorities" with whom individual preventive work is now being carried out. Last year alone, juvenile crime rose by more than 30 percent.

Why has such a monstrous phenomenon which we are presently observing in Kazan been possible at all? I asked this question of R. Viktagirov, the section chief of the Procurator's Office of the Tatar Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic, candidate of legal sciences .

"For a long time, the 'Kazan phenomenon' was described as something special and the problems of Kazan were isolated from the common run and artificially set apart. And they endeavored to resolve them by a purely 'surgical' method. From this incorrect understanding or reticence to look deep at the sources of the problem they placed the main emphasis in the struggle against antisocial manifestations exclusively on the internal affairs bodies and they, of course, could only blunt the problem for some time but not eradicate it. Later it turned out that the 'Kazan phenomenon' was not a tumor and it could not be removed by a scalpel. This was a serious chronic disease the treatment of which would require great forces, time, and a good deal of material expenditures.

Having once defined the strategy of action, why did the struggle against this evil turn out to be ineffective? Here is what the section chief of the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Procurator's Office A. Mytsykov has to say:

"Kazan is our pain and a subject of constant concern. We go there frequently for inspections and for providing practical aid. Unfortunately, the 'Kazan phenomenon' is not just one of Kazan. At present, one could mention some 15 places in Russia where there are similar phenomena. We noticed the 'Kazan problem' for the first time in 1984 after young people had destroyed the quarters of a municipal department in Leninagorsk. We immediately noticed that no one was seriously combating the fights. The obvious underestimating of the negative consequences from the existence of hostile groupings had allowed this phenomenon to go so far. Only after blood was shed in one of the mass fights did they begin saying that measures had to be taken."

Then for the first time sessions of the city soviet and the aktivs were held. There was no shortage of measures. Over 200 "leaders" were arrested, they endeavored to draw the attention of the public and the parent aktiv, and courtyard committees appeared. A coordinating council was set up. But all of this took time. For this reason the absence of noticeable changes in the combating of juvenile crime can largely be explained by the fact that they were fighting not the causes but rather the consequences of major and, unfortunately, still continuing mistakes in the work with the youth.

Time is needed to make any progress in this complex nexus of contradictions. And a solution to the problem cannot be demanded just from the law enforcement bodies. The Komsomol, the institutions of learning, the labor collectives, and the trade unions must be involved in this work. It is essential to establish an emotionally attractive alternative. Only then will it be possible to divert the fellows 10-12 years of age who "feed" the groupings. In Kazan for now this has not been done. This is impeded by the absence of equipment, the insufficient facilities of the sports and cultural-amusement facilities, the low authority of the Komsomol, and much else which for years has built up and prevented normal work with the youth.

Statistics Show:

According to the data of the RSFSR Procurator's Office last year they recorded 130,000 participants in criminal actions among juveniles and 18,000 juveniles are neither working nor employed.

One out of every three juveniles with a record comes from a broken family. Forty percent of those convicted also come from a broken family.

According to the data of [text illegible], the republic has recorded 2,500 juvenile clubs and around 30,000 circles. This is sixfold less than the necessary.

"Considering the difficult situation existing in the juvenile environment," said A. Mytsykov, "we have worked out a special program which will be aimed at neutralizing the specific circumstances which contribute to the illegal conduct of young persons. We need not 40 different organizations but a single body which would direct all the work of preventing juvenile crime. In our view this can be the section for juvenile and youth affairs under the executive committees of the local soviets. And this does not have to be set up from scratch; we merely have to redistribute the personnel of the organizations. Of course material investments are essential. For too long we have economized in our youth policy and which we in essence did not have. Now we must pay for this. Measures must be taken immediately. And these must not be half-hearted but concrete and tangible. There must be a state program for combating juvenile crime. Stop-gap measures merely lead to a situation where tomorrow similar phenomena will be observed in other regions of the republic.

The situation is very tense. In January alone of this year, juvenile crime in the RSFSR increased by 55 percent. An alarming figure. And hence the lawyers are right: We cannot wait any longer.

While the Issue Was Being Set

On 21 March, the USSR MVD conducted a briefing to which were invited the leaders of the Tatar MVD and representatives from the party and Komsomol bodies of Kazan. They discussed juvenile crime. It was pointed out that the situation in the capital of Tataria continues to remain tense although, in truth, the measures taken have somewhat improved the situation. Over 140 group leaders have been detected and held responsible, the number of fights has been cut in half, and three groupings have been broken up and ceased their activities.

It was also made clear that such problems beset not only Kazan. Thus, in Dzerzhinsk of Gorkiy Oblast, there are 30 juvenile groupings with a total membership of 700 persons. Last year here 25 major organized fights broke out. In Yoshkar-Ola there are 11 groupings. They committed 13 group violations of public order. This year the situation here has become particularly tense: In just over 2 months, juveniles have committed 9 mass fights involving around 200 persons. There are also other examples.

All of this shows that a solution to the juvenile problem can no longer be put off. Specific measures are essential.

Agricultural

Nikonov Discusses New Agrarian Policy

AU0504180689 Sofia ZEMEDELSKO ZNAME in Bulgarian 4 Apr 89 p 3

[Article by Aleksandr Nikonov, president of the USSR V.I. Lenin Academy of Agricultural Sciences: "Socialist Pluralism of Forms"]

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee March plenum which ended recently adopted a new agricultural policy for the country. The abbreviation "NAP" [New Agricultural Policy] has already appeared in the press. However, this is not the main point. The main point is the fact that this policy must fundamentally, within the next few years, change both the supply situation in the country and the conditions under which people are living in the villages. The statements of the participants in the plenum and the opinions of the experts expressed not only the USSR major collectives and state agrarian enterprises' adherence to the traditional but also the willingness to clear the road for new ways of farming the land, developed by restructuring.

Thus, the family farms obtained the right to exist. However, this does not mean that they are the core of the new agrarian policy. I think that three basic principles are vested in the new agrarian policy: diversity (pluralism) of management systems and total freedom to chose between them, the broadest possibilities for production sharing and forming associations, and developing the forms of leasing farmland and other production means. These principles are firmly backed by many state scientific-technical and social programs.

The new agrarian policy has a very complex character; it contains provisions on conducting radical changes in production relations, reconstructing the material-technical basis, and creating a new social situation in the villages.

There are at least three reasons because of which higher party forums (excluding the congress) have reviewed the issue of developing the agro-industrial complex. First of all, the previous plan for action in this sphere, the supply program that was adopted in 1982, ends in 1990. Second, it is necessary for the new leadership of the country to clearly determine its goals and tasks in the agrarian sphere and the means for achieving them along the road of radical economic reforms. Third, and perhaps most important, the country's agriculture continues to function improperly and stagnation in agriculture, against which the Soviet society had started to struggle 4 years ago, still exists.

Most decisive measures were necessary in order to overcome the negative tendencies. It was decided to relinquish the direct, centralized management of the agrarian sector, to untie the hands of the producers, and to eliminate the State Agro-Industrial Committee (Gosagroprom), which during the years turned into a super ministry with a huge apparatus. Relations between agriculture and the organs that provide services to agriculture have been placed on a new economic basis. New, centralized production funds for the country have been formed. A broad road was opened for applying the new, leading achievements of science and technology in everyday work. Agrarian farms based on personal work obtained a right to exist along the kolkhozes , sovkhozes, agrarian companies, and agrarian combines. The rights of the private farmers have been expanded and many restrictions on the character of their production have been eliminated.

It has been envisaged to broadly develop land leasing and other means of production. A law on leasing is being prepared. According to this farmers can lease land for 50 or more years, with the right to inherit the land. It has also been envisaged to develop the shareholding and business principles in agrarian production.

The development of the kolkhozes [collective farm], sovkhozes [state farm], and major farms as the basis of Soviet agriculture has been encouraged. They must gradually develop into cooperative associations—free and voluntary trusts of groups of workers who lease land or animal-breeding farms.

The state production reserves will be formed, as they have until now, on the basis of purchasing the produce from the producers, however, at higher prices, which must ensure sufficient income and stimulate production increase in the most suitable climatic zones. However, it was also decided to freeze the retail price of the basic foodstuffs during the next 2-3 years at the existing level.

I think that the new approaches to the agrarian policy are rather radical because they affect the very essence of the matter—the attitude toward property. Different kinds of production emerge on the basis of different forms of property. It is in an atmosphere of free competition that they must indeed demonstrate their advantages. The increased production of foodstuffs will be the result of such a competition, which is also influenced by the interests of the indirect producers.

Factors Affecting Market Food Prices Noted

PM0404105789 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
29 Mar 89 Second Edition p 1

[V. Brovkin article under the rubric "Market Prices": "What, How Much, and Why"]

[Text] "Market prices for food are made up of a certain amount to cover costs and wages, another amount is profit, and another sizable amount is unearned excess income stemming from the market situation"—this was the breakdown provided by our reader G. Frolov from Irkutsk. "It is time," he continues, "to recognize this and deprive private traders of the opportunity to make a fortune."

M. Savelyev from Krasnodar Kray seems to take issue with him: "I take my produce to the city market. I have to tip the train conductor or he'll claim that my bags clutter up the aisles and won't let them on the train. I have to pay a taxi driver, there's a 'surcharge' for a good spot at the market, and I have to pay for a night in a hotel, too. That's why my little tomatoes aren't cheap...."

We came across these letters in the editorial mailbag. I do not think any commentary is needed as to why prices at the market are high. But let us examine just what was available at markets in December and what it cost. These details are provided by the latest USSR State Committee for Statistics [Goskomstat] press release.

Take potatoes to start with. In Moscow they sell for 73 kopeks per kg on average. They are R1 per kg in Tbilisi, Yerevan, Lvov, Kishinev, and Nikolayev. They are R1.21 in Baku and R1.5 in Ashkhabad. That is a big difference compared to the state price of 10 kopeks.

Sometimes we blame dealers who buy up and resell produce and claim that it is their fault. But should we be surprised that this phenomenon flourishes if fresh cabbages cost 38 kopeks per kg in Tashkent and R1.7 in Vladivostok? Why is the cooperative system not doing something? Are businessmen from the Maritime Kray Union of Consumer Trade Cooperatives really unable to organize purchases of cabbages in the south and to sell them in the Far East at reasonable prices—while not making a loss themselves, of course?

What does the summary tell us about the operation of the market price mechanism? As is well known, there is no shortage of beef. Yet beef prices are high and constantly increasing. In Sverdlovsk, for instance, beef costs R8 per kg this year whereas last year it was R5. In Moscow the R7 level has long been left behind. Or take another product—eggs. They can be found in any store. They can also be found in the markets, and at prices below state prices. Sometimes one hears it said that if market prices are low nobody will take their goods to market. But they do, and the goods are cheap. When, of course, the state is competitive.

As is well known, collective farms [kolkhozes] and state farms [sovkhozes] sell some of their truck garden produce to the population at increased prices. Judging by the Goskomstat summary, these prices fall midway between state and market prices. Certain products on kolkhoz and sovkhoz stalls are cheaper than state products. Thus large onions sell for 38 kopeks as opposed to the state price of 50 kopeks; fresh cucumbers are R2.12 per kg as opposed to R3; and apples are 81 kopeks as opposed to R1.3.

But, of course, the main thing today is to produce and sell within the state trading system as much produce that is in short supply as possible. A recent TASS report from Ternopol reveals one such opportunity. Last year Michurin Kolkhoz sold 2,500 quintals of meat to the state—almost one and one-half times the plan figure. More than half of this amount was produced by families contracted to the kolkhoz. The farm allocates pigs or steers for fattening and supplies them with root crops and dairy by-products. The prime cost of a quintal of meat produced on personal plots is less than half the average level of costs for the farm. This cooperation benefits the kolkhoz, the rural inhabitants, and, of course, the consumer.

Scientific

* 'Phobos' Mission Described, Spending Questioned

18200289 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 26 Mar 89 pp 1, 4

[Article by G. Lomanov: "Project 'Phobos,' or the Blitz-Tournament With an Unknown Adversary"]

[Text] Project "Phobos" is coming closer and closer to its culmination moment. In the first 10 days of April, the Soviet interplanetary station will make a low-level pass over the Martian satellite and will drop a permanent station on it with a set of unique scientific instruments and an automatic probe which scientists have named "the frog"—after touching the surface, it will stretch out its little mechanical legs and make several 20-meter hops, changing its place of exploration.

Before recounting the objective and methods of the unusual experiment, it is necessary, perhaps, to make a short but important digression. The editorial office receives mail almost every day with the questions: Why is the cost of space exploration kept secret? Do we need expensive programs when store shelves are by no means abundantly supplied, and when at times you do not know what to feed the baby? The questions are pointed, they are by no means idle, and they have to be answered. Thus, at least the cost of the "Phobos" project is not a secret. I look through my notes in my notebook, which I made before the launch of the interplanetary station. V. Balebanov, deputy director of the Institute of Space Exploration of the USSR Academy of Sciences, reported that the cost of the development and manufacture of scientific equipment was somewhere in the neighborhood of R40 million. The question concerned our expenditures, inasmuch as 14 countries and the European Space Agency participated in the "Phobos" project—our foreign partners contributed about the same amount in dollars. After adding up the cost of the launch of the "Proton" rocket, the stations themselves, and also a number of other expenditures, we arrive at a sum that is almost R300 million. It should be noted that a part of the means was used for the creation of terrestrial experimental devices and the command-measuring system devices that are intended for multiple operations.

One station was lost as a result either of error or operator negligence. It is a pity, but nothing can be done about it now. The second successfully avoided the reefs and shoals of outer space and is now heading for a rendezvous with Phobos. Why was it that precisely this Martian satellite was chosen as an object for exploration? Rephrasing the question, for what reason was such a long voyage undertaken? Recently, the attention of researchers has been drawn more and more to the small bodies of the solar system—comets, asteroids, and planetary satellites, Phobos among them. These relic objects are witnesses to the very early stages of the formation of our planetary system. They were formed long before the most ancient terrestrial rocks, and their study, possibly, will help to fill in the "blank spots" in the history of the universe.

To begin with, whether the purpose justifies the expended resources will very likely have to be judged by the specialists. And, nonetheless...when thinking about this question, one automatically recalls the caustic aphorism of Academician L. Artsimovich: Science is a method for satisifying personal curiosity at the state's expense. It is hardly reasonable to call for removing space programs, but it is more than reasonable to give it some thought, as is done by our readers: Where is it better to spend these hundreds of millions? On prestigious projects or on the construction and establishment of homes for invalids and old people?

However, it is time to move from thinking about economic problems to scientific matters. Thus, Phobos. As far back as the beginning of the 17th century, I. Kepler stated the proposition that Mars has a satellite. But scientific forecasts are not a remarkable thing for us—to this day there is nothing that excites people more than the prediction of the famous English satirist J. Swift. A century and a half before the discovery of Mars' satellites, he named the periods of their revolution around the planet. What is this—a coincidence, something that dawned on him? I am afraid that we will never know the answer. But the American astronomer A. Hall saw the satellites of the Red Planet in a telescope for the first time during the great opposition of Mars in 1877. And he called them Phobos and Deimos, which means "fear" and "terror."

At the beginning of the sixties, an eccentric hypothesis of Soviet astrophysicist I. Tsiolkobskiy roamed the pages of scientific and the more popular publications. He proposed that Phobos...is an artificial heavenly body. It would seem that this is a fantasy of the first water. Not entirely—there were reasons for such a version. Astronomers noted that, revolving around the planet, the mysterious satellite was gradually getting closer to it. Perhaps the Martian atmosphere was acting like a brake on it? If so, given quite respectable dimensions, Phobos should have a small mass, and this is possible if it was hollow inside. Nature does not tolerate such an emptiness, which means that Phobos is not a natural satellite, but was created by an unknown civilization.

Alas, this hypothesis with enticing secrets had to be shelved in the archives. At first, the American satellite "Mariner-9" and, later, "Viking," transmitted images of the red planet's satellite. The photos, and one could distinguish details in them on the order of meters, left no room for doubt that Phobos was a natural satellite of Mars.

However, even now information on the mass, internal structure, and even moreso the composition of the rocks, would hardly be called 100-percent reliable by anyone. There is an old rule—the more scientists learn about a research topic, the more new questions arise. Here is an example—long strips are quite noticeable on the photos. As if a giant unknown wild beast scratched the surface with its claws. What is this? One of the suppositions is that they are fissures from the impact of a large meteorite, which was afterwards filled with a crumbly substance—regolith.

One can still wander for a long time in the labyrinth of various, and at times mutually exclusive, models and hypotheses. Information obtained from the "Phobos" station can become a real Ariadne thread for scientists [in Greek mythology, thread used to get out of a labyrinth]. The research program provides for the study of plasma, solar winds, cosmic rays, X-ray, and ultraviolet radiation of our luminary. But the main objective is the study of the Mars satellite. More than 20 instruments are on board the interplanetary station, and more than half of them are earmarked for exploring Phobos.

It is interesting to compare some figures. The flight in the vicinity of Mars took 200 days. Another 2 and a half months was taken up by maneuvers in an orbit around the planet. And only 15-20 minutes will be devoted to exploring Phobos itself from onboard the station. The fact is that it is impossible to place the station in orbit around the Martian satellite—Phobos's mass is too small, its gravitational force is minimal, and a heavy interplanetary apparatus cannot be kept on such a "little string." Only one thing can be done—after making coincident the orbits of the natural and manmade satellites that are revolving synchronously around Mars, accurately bring "Phobos" to Phobos.

The space laboratory is well-equipped. For example, with the help of the thermoscan instrument, scientists hope to obtain a detailed thermal map of Phobos. Television equipment will provide colored images of the surface, on which it will be possible to distinguish details the size of several centimeters, and not meters, as on the "Viking" photos.

One of the most interesting and important experiments will be conducted with the aid of the remotely operated laser mass-analyzer LIMA-D. The instrument was developed by specialists of the Leningrad Institute of Precision Mechanics and Optics in collaboration with scientists from the GDR, Bulgaria, Finland and Czechoslovakia. The puncture of the laser ray will cause a very small explosion in a rock and a vapor cloud of the matter—ionized gas—will be entrapped while rising. Then the instruments will conduct an analysis of its physico-chemical properties.

And all in all this takes just a little more than a quarter of an hour. The equipment will work under extremely strenuous conditions. Here, as if in a blitz chess tournament, any error means losing the game. And this extremely complicated experiment is conducted in an automatic routine millions of kilometers from earth, when it takes the radio signal more than 10 minutes in one direction. There is no way to interrupt, correct, or repeat. One can only hope that everything that was intended turns out all right.

* Experts Refute Article on Chernobyl Illnesses

18000694 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian
1 Mar 89 p 1

[Interview with R.A. Aleksakhin, V.G. Bebeshko, I.A. Likhtarev, N.A. Loshchilov, A.Ye. Prisyazhnyuk, and B.S. Prister, by A. Maslov: "Incompetence For Export"; date, place of interview not given; first five paragraphs are an introduction]

[Text] A group of scientists, famous specialists in various subspecialties of radiology, called the editorial offices and requested to air their opinion on a recent publication in MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI (let us recall that this paper is published in several languages and almost all of its printing goes abroad). The article of journalist Vladimir Kolinko, "Radioactive Echo" 19 February, was under discussion. In brief, it stated that in the Narodichskiy Rayon of Zhitomir Oblast the radiation conditions and the consequences of the irradiation were far more serious than has been officially maintained. Thus, the specialists are reproached for not paying enough attention to this rayon, openly minimizing the radiological danger. And doubt is also expressed concerning their competence of dividing local villages into "clean" and "dirty," because radioactive dust is carried from place to place by the wind. It is asserted that in this rayon, the number of cases of oncological illnesses had increased sharply, that domesticated animals have given birth to deformed progeny, etc.

In addition, these assertions were visually confirmed in the short film entitled "Microphone!" shot by director Georgiy Shklyarevskiy.

Both the publication and the film had broad repercussions, abroad as well. Here is one of the responses from abroad:

"Dear Doctor Pyatak (deputy director of the All-Union Scientific Center for Radiation Medicine, USSR Academy of Medical Sciences) I hope that you will recall our meeting at Harvard last year. I learned from MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI that in the Narodchiskiy rayon there are cases of thyroid illnesses. Were those children given iodine drops? Hyperthyroidism may develop in children with inadequate thyroids when given potassium iodide. Could this be the problem? We also learned from TASS, 9 February 1989, that the cancer morbidity in Belorussia had increased. This is obviously too soon for radiation effects. Or has the Soviet press simply been infected by the American inclination toward sensationalism? Richard Wilson, Physics Department, Harvard University, Cambridge."

Our discussion, which took place in the Radiation Center, included R.A. Aleksakhin, academician of the Lenin All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences [VASKhNIL] and deputy director of the All-Union Scientific Research Institute of Agricultural Radiology, USSR State Agro-Industry (city Obninsk); Professor B.G. Bebeshko, doctor of medical science, director of the Institute of Clinical Radiology of the All-Union Scientific Center for Radiation Medicine of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences; Professor I. A. Likhtarev, doctor of physical-mathematical sciences, director of the dosimetry and radiation hygiene department of this center; Professor A. Ye. Prisyazhnyuk, doctor of medical sciences, director of the center's Laboratory of Epidemiology and Radiation Effects; Professor B. S. Prister, doctor of biological sciences, director of the department of the southern division of VASKhNIL.

[Likhtarev] I have MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI here in my hands. Non-specialists probably had goosebumps after reading this article by V. Kolinko. And the specialists just shrug with irony. For example, here are the words of the first secretary of the Narodchiskiy raykom Anatoliy Melnik (he has now transferred to another job) that the major part of the radioactive substances was carried over great distances with the dust. That, so he says, is the source of all the troubles.

There were indeed errors on that score. In the very beginning of the Chernobyl accident, there were major Ukrainian scientists who were very pessimistic toward "zonal movement," the dispersal of radioactive contamination by the dust factor. Literally 2 months ago, the special expedition of the "Tayfun" scientific production association of the State Committee for Hydrometrology and Environmental Control [Goskomgidromet] presented its data; it has been studying this at a highly qualified level. It turned out that this movement was insignificant, even when conditions of powerful dust formation are created for it artificially. This is why special measures have not been undertaken to prevent "zonal movement."

[Maslov] How can these absences of migration of radioactive substances be explained?

[Likhtarev] It can be explained very simply. In order to raise from the ground into the air these same curies per square kilometer, more than a hurricane, a tornado would be needed. Only it would have the power to tear up the ground. Or, let's say, high temperature, as took place in the torch of the burning reactor. Had there not been this torch over unit four, with a temperature of over 1,000 degrees, then the radioactive fallout would have occurred in a small zone surrounding the station.

[Prisyazhnyuk] Let me cite again the opinion of the raykom [rayon party committee] secretary. "Our doctors have noted complications in chronic diseases among the population, a deterioration during surgical patients' post-operative periods. The average annual number of cancerous diseases has doubled, in particular, cancer of the lips and mouth." Further on, the publication's author queries, "Are we living in normal or extreme times?" This demands comment.

In 1986, in light of the increase of the population's migration due precisely to the events of Chernobyl, the quality of record-keeping of oncology patients living near the zone, including in Narodichi, was on a very low level. The number of registered cases had fallen to 49, less than in the previous year, but this remained unnoted. Then in 1987, there were 94 cases, and they were immediately raised as an example. How can this be, a doubling of the morbidity rate? The local party workers and the journalist drew far-reaching conclusions from this.

We have reviewed literally all hospital records. We managed to establish that the number of ill people in this region was changing at the same rate as in the oblast in general, as in the entire Ukraine. Our data are confirmed by official statistics as well, which noted that in 1988, the number of oncological patients fell to 74. As far as the manifestation of lip swellings are concerned, they are in general groundless, because in 1987 and 1988 only three such cases were registered. And in the previous years, up to seven cases had been noted.

[Maslov] So, it could be that this is caused by the migration of the population?

[Prisyazhnyuk] No, since lip cancer has been declining. This is one of the few forms of oncological disease which has been decreasing in frequency.

The situation is somewhat different with mouth cancer. In previous years, one or two of these cases were registered, and in 1987, six. But this can be explained not by the radiation factor, but by the fact that the population is not receiving the level of stomatological assistance which it needs. And it depreciated considerably in 1986. It is dental caries which provoke mouth cancer. As far as thyroid cancer is concerned, there are only one or two cases annually, malignant swellings of the hemogenic lymphatic tissue, only four or five cases. In the whole republic!

[Bebeshko] I must say that we are not finished with the attention of the doctors of Narodichi, in spite of the journalist's confirmation. Five or six times a year, a team of rayon and oblast doctors travels to the villages, along with specialists from the clinic of anti-radiation defense of our radiation center. Here, literally all children are covered by the clinic. If to our general misfortune they were all examined, as a rule, by the same pediatrician, then now, their health is monitored by entire groups of specialists. It is understandable that some discrepancies would now be manifested.

Let us look at the birth rate. 1985—11.4; 1986—12; 1987—8.4; and finally, 1988—12.2 births per thousand in the Narodichskiy rayon population. The decline in birthrate for 1987 is connected with the processes of migration. Average infant mortality in these same years: 1985—19.2; 1986—18.5; 1987—15.2; 1988—19.2 deaths per thousand children. As we see, the statistics are stable.

Now, about the part of the article, "The pig-tender carried the bug-eyed piglet out to the street so that I could photograph it, saying with tears in her eyes 'My daughter just got married. What will my grandson be like?' I did not dare to comfort this woman." Within the time intervals under discussion, the number of anomalies in the development of the juvenile population has not increased. It is now as it was before the accident. So where is a radioactive echo in all of this?

Now for the thyroid gland. Vladimir Kolinko writes that such illnesses have been noted in half of the juvenile population of the rayon. But this does not correspond to reality. Eighteen percent of the children of Narodichskiy rayon manifested thyroid gland hyperplasia, which is an aspect of the norm for a certain growth period. This level does not exceed that for territories in which iodide is endemic, including not only Narodichi, but all of Polessye, both Ukrainian and Belorussian parts. That is, a natural occurrence was taken for a disease.

[Maslov] And where do Doctor Wilson's concerns come in?

[Bebeshko] Potassium iodide can lead to hyperthyroidism if children take it over a prolonged period, a minimum of several months. Iodine preparations were administered for only a few days.

[Maslov] It is asserted in the publication, and I myself heard, that it is being recommended to women from these regions which have been subjected to radioactive contamination that they not give birth.

[Likhtarev] It happens that this is the easiest question to answer. Believe it or don't believe it, however you want, but there were no prohibitions regarding childbirth. It is possible that such recommendations were made on the level of the doctor in the rayon hospital during the turmoil of 1986. But neither the specialists in radiology, nor the public health leaders of the republic, nor the oblast, ever made such recommendations, I repeat, they were not made.

[Aleksakhin] Vladimir Grigoryevich mentioned a well-known fact that Polessye is an endemic region. Here, such trace elements as cobalt, iodine copper, and others are in short supply. All of this may cause various anomalies in animals. Plus the use of large quantities of mineral fertilizers and pesticides. Plus poor efforts at cross-breeding. The publication's author examines only one factor in the manifestation of animal deformities—radiation. How can such serious conclusions be drawn from one fixation?

[N. Loshchilov] It states in the publication that the Petrovskogo kolkhoz [collective farm] registered 140 animal deformities, if they are added up. In light of the publication of the article, we sent yet another group of specialists to this kolkhoz in order to sort everything out on the spot. To register, as they say, how many and what kind of monsters had been born, and when. It turned out that among the calves there were not 62 freaks, as asserted, but only eight. There were somewhat fewer among the piglets. Yet what was surprising was that the department where the freak animals were born is located in a position more favorable in the sense of radiation than on neighboring farms. We conducted selected tests of literally every field, every pasture. With the exception of one 50-hectare field, there was not one patch of land in this kolkhoz where the radioactive cesium contamination level exceeded acceptable limits.

In the neighboring "Chervone Polissya" and Lenin kolkhozes, the feed contamination level was higher. Yet there was not a single freak piglet at the "Chervone Polissya" kolkhoz. Our affiliate has an experimental farm at the "Vladimirskiy" kolkhoz (the village itself was evacuated); there, we have kept 500 head of large horned cattle and 200 pigs, gathered from right near Pripyat. For experimental purposes, we feed them extremely contaminated feed from the evacuated zone. And there is not one freak among the progeny of this experimental herd.

The conclusion waiting to be drawn is that the animal deformities at the Petrovskiy kolkhoz are not characterized by radiation. One more likely reason for the anomalies is close family cross-breeding. It happens that this is the first and foremost reason for the eye deformities noted in the publication.

[Aleksakhin] To elaborate: Untimely retirement of a producer to castrated boar leads to a situation where he is already breeding with his progeny by the third year. In this case, any genetic pathology may be conditioned.

[Loshchilov] A commission of the Ukrainian Agricultural Academy, headed by Professor N. Sudakov, investigated three farms in the Polessye area in January, 1986, that is, before the accident. The commission established that in 1985, among the 760 cows were 14 freaks, comprising about two percent. This same percentage is maintained even now. The commission tested the trace elements in the soil, the feed, and the animals' blood. It turned out that the trace element enumerated earlier were present at levels 20-100 times lower than the norm. In addition, a nitrate level in feed beets was established at 20 times higher than the norm. The conclusion was drawn: Animal deformities are the consequence of trace element deficiencies and excess nitrates.

[Prister] Today, every farm without exception has at its disposal information about the contamination of its territory. There is no sort of seal on this information. There is no sort of restriction. And this information absolutely is not the property of the kolkhoz chairmen. How can the supply of pure milk be maintained if people don't know the level of contamination of the land? After all, there could be a small section of a field at, say, the 40 curie level. All such spots have be found. Unless attention is paid to them, it is impossible to guarantee the production of pure products.

[Likhtarev] The article in MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI is incompetence exported abroad. I met several times with a journalist from DER SPIEGEL. He wrote three articles on the events of Chernobyl. In the first, he had almost 15,000 Kievans lying dead from radiation in May, 1986. In the third article, he asked pardon, but who here will pardon that?

As far as the radiation of people is concerned, its structure depends not only on where a person lives, but on age and profession. It is understandable that foresters received a higher than average dose, and children, a less than average dose. So the residents of Narodichi received an annual dose in a band from the village of Ruden-Ososhen-Narodichi within the limits of 0.06 to 0.27 rems of external gamma radiation and from 0.27 to 1.17 rems internal radiation (on account of the products contained in radioactive cesium) while the emergency-admissible dose for 1987 was 3 rems annually, and for 1988, 2.5 rems annually.

Yes, we have registered eight people of 7,000 who have received over 5 microcuries. Each one of them is personally known, and it is known why these people have such a level of radioactive cesium. I would note that 5 microcuries in an organism over a year is an annual dose of about 0.8 rems. They are, as a rule, elderly people who don't want to do anything about changing their lifestyle. Well, he's had his one cow, and all his life he's drunk milk from his own cow, and doesn't want to start following any regulations now. Incidentally, there's nothing terrible about this. But a journalist must not go making generalizations on this. If he talks about how things really are, then, I think, everybody will understand what's what.

At the viewing, I told one of the leaders of the Zhitomir obispolkom [oblast soviet executive committee] who strongly defended the film that one of his goals was to get more money for Narodichskiy rayon under the cover of an overwrought public. And why didn't he speak the same way to the government commission where these resources are allocated? He's usually silent there. The film only brings out more nervousness among the residents of Narodichskiy rayon. Kievans, upon seeing the film, just say, "Oh, my" but they still have to live there and constantly worry.

[Bebeshko] Such publications only lower the population's level of trust in specialists in radiation medicine and hygiene. And imagine if some terrible thing were to happen let's say, near Narodichi. And how would we manage to explain later that this had nothing to do with radiation; whatever quantitative information we publish, people would only say, "They're lying!"

[Likhtarev] It's probably impossible to accuse the rayon workers of having and erroneous point of view. But the journalist should have discussed the information with specialists. Can they really work on the principal of interviewing the first auntie Dunya they find on the street, and on that basis announce, "See, this is what the people are saying!" It was probably necessary to meet with the people who study such problems. Can moral goals really be attained with the help of immoral methods?

[Maslov] Of course, it was not very pleasant to hear the reproaches toward journalists. In searching for an answer as to why such an incompetent publication would appear in MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI, one of our interlocutors noted with some irony that this must be the price of glasnost.

It would be much more precise, in our view, to say that this is the price of voicelessness. In stumbling over all manner of prohibitions concerning a range of data on the accident at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Station [ChAES] during their collection and confirmation, journalists were forced to take circuitous routes. Unfortunately, not all of them led to the needed goal, as happened with our colleague.

One of the initiators of all possible barriers to full information on the ChAES was the USSR Ministry of Health. It is understandable why. It is, after all, easier to hide the real state of affairs than to insure the protection of people's health. The barriers were first and foremost the low level of our health maintenance system. This is why academician R. Aleksakhin noted in our discussion that the accident at ChAES concerned not so much radiation problems as social and moral problems.

Military

Yazov Addresses Conference on Military Farms

PM0404101589 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 Apr 89 First Edition p 1

[Major I. Ivanyuk report: "To Improve the Soldiers' Diet"]

[Text] Last year military state farms [sovkhozes] and the subsidiary farms of military units and of USSR Ministry of Defense enterprises, organizations, and institutions met their plan targets for the production of all basic categories of agricultural produce except potatoes and vegetables. The yield was 109,000 tonnes of meat (live weight), 65,000 tonnes of milk, and 229 million eggs, which as a whole made a substantial contribution to the soldiers' diet.

At the same time, numerous shortcomings still remain in the activity of military sovkhozes and subsidiary farms.

An analysis of reserves for boosting the efficiency of Army and Navy agricultural enterprises and for implementing the tasks stemming from the CPSU Central Committee March plenum was the topic of an all-Army conference attended by leaders of the rear services of branches of the Armed Forces, military districts, and food services, sovkhoz leaders, and secretaries of farm party organizations. The conference was opened by Army General V.M. Arkhipov, USSR deputy defense minister and chief of the USSR Armed Forces Rear Services.

A report on progress in fulfilling the Food Program in the Army and the Navy was read by Major General V.S. Shenin, chief of a directorate in the USSR Ministry of Defense Central Food Directorate.

At present military agricultural enterprises can satisfy the Army's and Navy's needs for potatoes and vegetables for approximately 4 months of the year and their needs for meat for 2 months. The task is to utilize internal production to satisfy one-fourth of the Armed Forces' needs for meat, one-half of their needs for potatoes and vegetables, and all their needs for milk and eggs whenever no other sources of supply are available.

The conference was addressed by Army General D.T. Yazov, USSR minister of defense, and Colonel General V.S. Nechayev, deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate.

Current Terms for Draft Deferment Outlined

PM0404165789 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 31 Mar 89 First Edition p 1

[Interview with Lieutenant General I. Matveyev, chief of a USSR Armed Forces General Staff directorate: "Who Will Receive a Draft Deferment"; date, place of interview not given; first paragraph is KRASNAYA ZVEZDA introduction]

[Text] The USSR defense minister's order on the discharge of servicemen who have served the prescribed terms of active military service into the reserve from the ranks of the USSR Armed Forces and on the next draft of citizens for active military service in April-June 1989 has been announced. At the editors' request Lieutenant General I. Matveyev, chief of a USSR Armed Forces General Staff directorate, speaks about the special features of this draft.

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] Most letters in the editors' mailbag ask whether higher educational institution (VUZ) students and secondary specialized educational institution [SSUZ] pupils will be drafted for active military service this year.

[Matveyev] Students of all daytime (intramural) VUZ's will receive a draft deferment. Deferment will also be granted to SSUZ pupils studying under the reserve officer training program and to pupils of SSUZ's, including evening and correspondence ones, prior to graduation, but not older than 20 years, unless they had secondary education before entering the SSUZ.

And again. For VUZ students undergoing military training in military departments (this is compulsory for all students of VUZ's where such departments exist) and for SSUZ pupils studying under the reserve officer training program in military cycles, deferment in order to obtain education will be tantamount to a release from carrying out active military service altogether.

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] Does this mean that if a student has graduated from a VUZ which had a military department and received the rank of reserve officer, he is no longer liable to be drafted for active military service?

[Matveyev] In practice, yes. Because, from past years' experience, only 2-4 percent of the annual number of reserve officer graduates were drafted as officers from this category of VUZ graduates. As in previous years, a deferment in order to continue education will be granted to pupils of secondary general educational schools.

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] Who decides the question of deferment—the military commissariat?

[Matveyev] No. That is the prerogative of the draft commission, which is actually headed by the rayon military commissar. This commission includes the deputy chairman or a member of the rayon soviet executive committee, representatives of rayon party and Leninist Communist Youth League committees, the chief of the rayon internal affairs administration (department) or his deputy, and also, of course, a physician. It is this representative commission, whose personnel is approved by the corresponding soviet executive committee, that adopts the decision on draft deferment in accordance with the law. Citizens may appeal against the rayon commission's decision to the oblast draft commission, whose decision is final.

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] What reasons for deferment does the law envisage?

[Matveyev] As I have already said, deferment may be granted in order to continue education, but also because of marital status or health reasons. Only the USSR Council of Ministers has the right to grant a deferment on other grounds not provided for in law.

Air Defense Chief Receives Journalists

PM0604095189 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Mar 89 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Journalists in Air Defense Forces"]

[Text] On 20 March workers in the central mass media visited the Air Defense Forces Main Staff. The journalists visited the Air Defense Forces Museum and familiarized themselves with the life and routine of personnel and with the way servicemen perform their combat duty. They saw an antiaircraft missile omplex in action and visited a unit command post.

In conclusion there was a meeting with members of the Air Defense Forces Military Council. It was addressed by Army General I.M. Tretyak, commander in chief of Air Defense Forces and USSR deputy defense minister.

* Role of Special Militia Detachments Explored

18000734 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 30 Mar 89 p 4

[Interview with V. Saranchuk, commander of Special Militia Detachment, by A. Rom: "Special Purpose Detachments"; date, place of interview not given; first paragragh is an introduction]

[Text] Special militia detachments have been created in over 20 cities in our country. Our correspondent met with V. Saranchuk, the commander of one of them, and asked him to talk about the subdivision's tasks.

[Rom] Democratic principles are being asserted more frequently in our society, the foundations for a rule-of-law state are being created. And suddenly there comes a detachment like this....

[Saranchuk] Democracy by no means presupposes anarchy, and a rule-of-law state begins with the individual's right to defense against any act of violence. Securing this right is our concern. Let's say, soccer fans begin to express their attitudes through fist fights—we're there. If there's an explosion, a fire, a flood, we get to the scene on a moment's notice. We're the ones who would go after a gang of armed criminals.

[Rom] How are people chosen for the detachment?

[Saranchuk] For a start, they have to serve a minimum of a year in the regular subdivisions. In choosing people, we pay attention to quick reaction time. Not only physical reactions. If a man has difficulty expressing his thoughts immediately, then it's understandable that taking action in an extreme situation would not be easy for him. Psychological stability is required. We can't keep those without equilibrium. Well, you understand, not everyone can walk into fire and water.

[Rom] The events of recent years, especially the last few months, have shown that our militia appears to be undefended at times.... And I see here you have shields....

[Saranchuk] Our shield is lighter than your dictaphone. A car ran over it, and as you can see, it's fine. We also have special helmets and bullet-proof vests....

[Rom] But you also have rubber nightsticks. There was a time when there were many complaints that the militia liked to use them too much. Where is the guarantee that you will not exceed the necessary measures of self-defense?

[Saranchuk] The rubber nightstick is only a means of self-defense. But of course, we must learn to take firm action within the framework of the law.

[Rom] Tell me, why does the detachment have automatic weapons and sniper's rifles? They are in your armaments?

[Saranchuk] I personally am not familiar with any militia use of automatic weapons. As far as the sniper's rifles are concerned... Well, for example, there was a case in the Crimea—a crazed criminal crushed people on the beach with a car. Only sharpshooting could stop him.

[Rom] Abroad, in detachments such as yours, there are special groups for persuasion....

[Saranchuk] We have them, too. Their main task is, wherever possible, to calm down a situation of conflict. Sometimes a wise, carefully weighed word can achieve reliable coercion.

[Rom] High risk is your work week. Does this give you the right to any privileges? Let's say, material things?

[Saranchuk] No, we get the standard pay. Although, I feel that the conditions of high risk should not be disregarded in terms of pay. Of course, this question isn't up to me.

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